

CALENDAR

JULY

18-19: 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

19-20: International Symposium on Salmonella, New Orleans, LA. Emphasis on practical methods to prevent salmonella in food animals and their products and in humans. Contact: Dr. G. H. Snoeyenbos, Paige Laboratory, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003

21-28: Eighth World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, sponsored by the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, San Francisco, CA. Contact: EERI-8WCCE, 2620 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704

22-27: Agricultural Education Workshop sponsored by AID in Yaounde, Cameroon. Contact: Edna McBreen, AFR/TR/EHR, Room 2636, Washington, D.C.; telephone (202) 632-8826.

22-Aug. 4: International Symposium on Indo-Pacific Plankton, Shimizu, Japan. Contact: David H. Montgomery, Secretary, Western Society of Naturalists, Biological Sciences Department, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

23-27: Annual International Agricultural Conference sponsored by the International Development Institute to be held in Washington, DC. Contact: Ellen Carlos (202) 547-1727

23-Nov. 2: International Course on Plant Protection, Wageningen, The Netherlands. Contact: Director, International Agriculture Center, Postbus 88, 6700 AB Wageningen, The Netherlands

AUGUST

6-10: "Evaluation of Project Designs" urban planning workshop sponsored by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will use cities in Brazil, Sri Lanka, and Egypt as models. Contact: Directors of Laboratory of Architecture and Planning, Building N52-431, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139

12-17: Second Global Conference on the Future. The theme is "Toward Community: Thinking Freely, Acting Courageously," New Delhi, India. Contact: Global Futures Network, 26 McGill St., Toronto, Canada, M5B 1H2, or 181 Rewa, Haji Ali, Bombay 400 026, India

12-17: World Soybean Research Conference, Iowa State University, Ames, IA. Contact: James B. Sinclair, University of Illinois, Department of Plant Pathology, N-519 Turner Hall, 1102 South Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801 or Walter R. Fehr, Department of Agronomy, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011

13-14: Joint Committee on Agricultural Research and Development (JCARD) meeting, sponsored by AID, Washington, DC. Contact: John Stovall, AID/BIFAD, Room 5316, Washington, DC 20523; telephone (202) 632-8532

13-15: International Conference on Soils and Nutrition of Perennial Crops, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Contact: Secretary, Organizing Committee, Malaysian Society of Soil Science, P.O. Box 2644, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

13-16: Water Resources twentieth annual Conference on "Overcoming Institutional and Technical Constraints to Water Resources Management," sponsored by the American Water Resources Association. The conference will include a symposium on the operations for researching water quality goals. Washington, DC. Contact: Claire Welty, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (WH-565B), 401 M St. SW, Washington, DC 20460

13-17: International Workshop on Psocoptera, sponsored by King's College Field Station, Rogate, Hants, U.K. Contact: B.D. Turner, Department of Zoology, University of London, Strand, London, U.K. WC 2R 2LS

13-Nov. 16: Fourteenth International Course on Vegetable Growing, sponsored by the International Agriculture Center, Wageningen, the Netherlands. Contact: Director, International Agriculture Center, Lawicksee Allee 11, Postbus 88, 6700 AB Wageningen, the Netherlands

14-Oct. 31: Eighth International Course on Seed Technology for Vegetable Crops, sponsored by the University of the Philippines, Los Banos, the Philippines. Contact: The Directorate, International Training Program on Seed Technology, P.O. 430, College, Laguna 3720, the Philippines

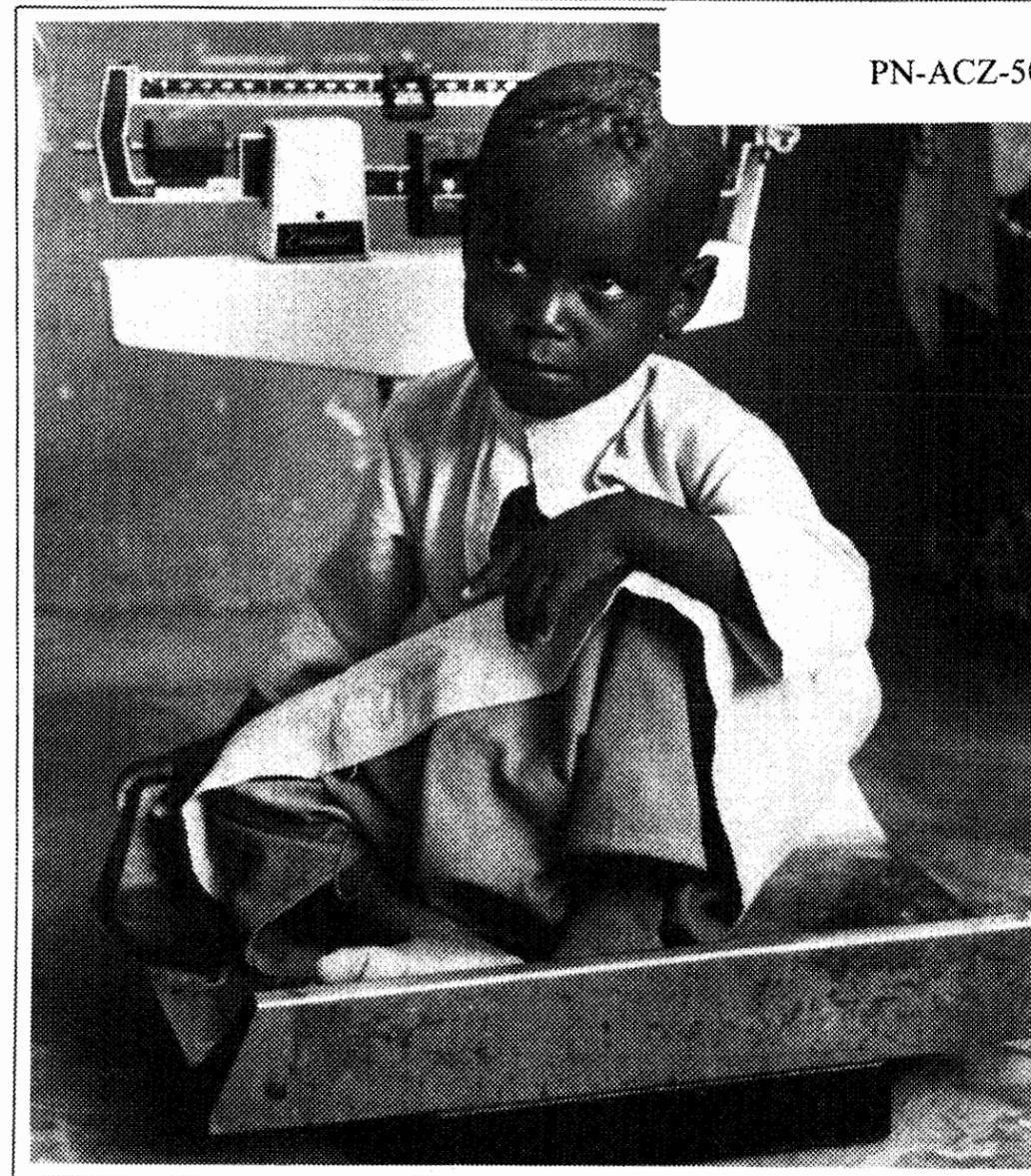
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FRONT LINES

THE AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

JULY 1984

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



PN-ACZ-508

AID IN MAURITANIA

OFDA Coordinates Guinea Relief Effort

Grenada Airport Contract Signed

New Center Strengthens AID's Programs

Environment Issues Impact on Planning

Economic development can be planned effectively only if conflicts that create environmental issues are resolved early in the process, according to a publication released last month by AID, the Organization of American States (OAS) and the National Park Service.

The publication was released at a ceremony, panel discussion and luncheon at OAS headquarters in Washington. The report, entitled *Integrated Regional Development Planning: Guidelines and Case Studies from OAS Experience*, resulted from a cooperative agreement between AID, the National Park Service and OAS. It combines guidelines and case studies in regional planning and observes that "issues frequently identified as environmental are in fact the results of one group competing with another for use of a resource."

Neither comprehensive planning nor a random selection of projects works as an approach to development planning, the book says, and consideration of the environment as a last stop in planning frequently results in conflicts. The publication, based on 20 years of OAS experience in regional planning, proposes a way to avoid these pitfalls: simplified planning; formulation of packages of related projects of infrastructure, production and support services; and early consideration of the environment.

"We agree with the recommendations," said Administrator McPherson, one of five speakers introducing the publication. "Environmentally sound planning makes sense to us. It is economically necessary to take these concerns into consideration."

McPherson drew a distinction between integrated rural development, which he said hasn't worked well, and integrated regional planning, the subject of the new publication. He

cited AID's efforts in environment, particularly the building of developing countries' institutional capacity to do their own environmental work.

"AID has taken the lead role in the (U.S. government's) strategy for biological diversity," he said. "Our interest in forestry has grown enormously. We are preparing environmental profiles of a number of countries—we've finished 47 so far. And we are planning a regional profile for Central America."

Val McCombie, acting secretary general of the OAS, called the report "a new contribution to our knowledge of development" and said the true beneficiaries would be the people of Latin America and the Caribbean. Francisco de la Peña of Colombia, chairman of the OAS Permanent Council, said the practical applications of the report make it different from "many studies whose destiny is to take up space on counters and in libraries." J. William Middendorf II, permanent U.S. representative to the OAS, called the report "an example of U.S. support for Latin America." Russell Dickenson, director of the National Park Service, said the publication showed the "close link between management of natural resources and economic development." The challenge of the remainder of the 20th century, he added, "is to meet economic objectives without destroying the natural resource base."

The new report identifies trends that must be taken into consideration, said Nyle Brady, AID's senior assistant administrator for science and technology, during a panel discussion after the introductory speeches. Among the trends he cited were population growth, migration to cities and to other countries, economic constraints and resource constraints.

(continued on page 2)



World Wildlife Fund Senior Vice President E.U. Curtis Bohlen (left) greets (center to right) Administrator McPherson, Sri Lankan Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel, and Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene following the formal ceremony recognizing AID and Sri Lankan conservation efforts.

Wildlife Fund Lauds Conservation Efforts

Administrator M. Peter McPherson and Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene were presented letters of appreciation by World Wildlife Fund-U.S. for their effort on behalf of environmental conservation in development in the South Asian country.

World Wildlife Fund Senior Vice President E. U. Curtis Bohlen presented the letters on behalf of Fund President Russell E. Train on June 19.

President Jayewardene was congratulated for his personal attention in establishing and maintaining a system of national parks and wildlife reserves in Sri Lanka. AID was lauded for its support of an environmental assessment of planned development of the Mahaweli River basin which was termed "one of the most comprehensive environmental reviews of a

development assistance program ever undertaken" and one which "may serve as a model for use in similar river basin projects around the world."

AID is helping finance the construction of irrigation canals as part of the Accelerated Mahaweli Development Program which is expected to provide employment, increase food production and power capacity. AID also is supporting national park development and reforestation in the Mahaweli watershed area.

Charles Greenleaf, assistant administrator for the Asia Bureau; Michael Philley of the Bureau's Office of Technical Resources; and John Gunning of the Bureau's Office of Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka Affairs also attended the ceremony.

Assistance Request Cut by Committee

The Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee on June 8 approved supplemental appropriations of \$265.8 million for foreign assistance activities in fiscal 1984. This sum is less than a third of the Administration's request for \$948.6 million.

Chairman Clarence Long (D-MD) said that the subcommittee approved appropriations only for areas of emergency need previously authorized by Congress. Accordingly, the subcommittee turned down a \$320 million request for multilateral development banks and \$3.7 million requested for the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Most of the requested money is intended for programs in Central

America. Of the \$290 million requested for Economic Support Fund (ESF) assistance, the subcommittee approved \$170 million. Of this amount, the panel earmarked \$60 million for Costa Rica, \$20 million for Honduras, \$40 million for the Dominican Republic and \$25 million for El Salvador.

The remaining \$25 million in ESF is earmarked for AID's International Disaster Assistance account for inland transportation of food, procurement and distribution of medical supplies, and other assistance for victims of famine in Africa.

The subcommittee also accepted an amendment requiring that any supplemental ESF funds for El Salvador deposited in the Central Reserve Bank of that country be kept in a separate account from other funds.

The subcommittee approved only \$7.5 million of the requested \$73 million for Development Assistance.

(continued on page 2)

U.S. Company Gets Contract for Airport

The Agency signed a \$2.8 million contract May 24 with Morrison-Knudsen International Co., Inc., of Boise, ID, for completion of Grenada's Point Salines airport.

The contract provides for financing supervision and management of the facility's design and construction. Materials, construction equipment and services will be paid for through work orders issued according to the contract from the remaining \$19 million appropriated by Congress for the airport.

The firm, which has constructed 50 airports worldwide, was chosen after examination of proposals offered by 34 U.S. companies, said Jim Holtaway, director of the Office of Caribbean Affairs, Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). The first group

of company employees began work in Grenada three days after the signing ceremony, he added.

One reason for completing the airport is to generate local employment, and the company already has hired 148 Grenadians. It is expected that 250-300 Grenadians will be employed by the project.

Under Morrison-Knudsen's supervision, the local asphalt plant has become operational again, a bus service has been set up to transport workers, a snack bar has been constructed for the convenience of employees and construction has been progressing at a pace that should ensure completion of the airport by October, according to Holtaway. He explained that the project is now two weeks ahead of schedule.

Holtaway, who recently returned from Grenada, said he found the Grenada government "superb" in its support of U.S. efforts and, the foreign companies and governments involved

(continued on page 2)



Administrator McPherson discusses the environment as Senior Assistant Administrator for Science and Technology Nyle Brady (center) and Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Development Program Joseph Wheeler listen.

Environment

From page 1, column 2

"There are such conflicts as food vs. environment, rapidly depleting tropical forests, quantity and quality of water, and soil deterioration. The greatest impact of these trends is on poor people."

Brady said the development community must use better approaches to further environmentally-sound development. Approaches he cited:

- Build scientific and technical institutions.
- Analyze environmental considerations early in project activities.
- Improve policies of recipient countries.
- Adopt appropriate technology.
- Define research needs.
- Improve cooperation among donors.
- Improve coordination among sectors.

Other participants in the panel discussion were Robert Milne, chief of international affairs for the National Park Service; Joseph Wheeler, deputy executive director of the United Nations Environment Program and former Deputy Administrator of AID; James Lee, environmental adviser for the World Bank; Kirk Rodgers, director of the OAS Department of Regional Development; Michael Moran of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture; and Luis Ferrate of the Inter-American Development Bank.

Airport

From page 1, column 4

"completely cooperative." Completing the airport, he said "is one of the most important things that can be done for the Grenadians; the people are being very supportive."

The U.S. decision to complete the airport came after an AID-financed pre-feasibility study earlier this year recommended a modified design and confirmed that the airport is vital to the revival of Grenada's economy.

While the U.S. contribution is substantial, other countries, including

Canada, are participating in the financing. The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration also has joined the effort as special advisers for the project.

The contract was signed by Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris and W.C. Perkins, vice president of Morrison-Knudsen for Latin America, in a Capitol Hill ceremony attended by Sen. James McClure (R-ID) and Sen. Steven Symms (R-ID).

Request Cut

From page 1, column 2

It directed the transfer of these funds to Disaster Assistance to meet the health, shelter and food needs of Miskito and other Indian groups in Honduras. With regard to AID operating expenses, the subcommittee approved \$8.5 million as compared with a request of \$11 million.

An appropriation of \$40 million was approved for the Housing Guaranty Reserve Fund.

An additional transfer was made into AID's International Disaster Assistance account—\$2 million was moved from Migration and Refugee Assistance for aid to Afghan refugees.

Finally, the subcommittee approved only \$25 million of the Administration's \$259 million request for military assistance for Central America, although \$61.75 million of this request—for El Salvador—is pending in a different supplemental.

After lengthy debate, the subcommittee adopted one general substantive limitation on the use of supplemental funds. The amendment, offered by Rep. Jack Kemp (R-NY), prohibits AID from restricting the obligation or disbursement of funds solely on the basis of the policies of a multilateral institution. In discussing his amendment, Kemp said that AID should not be allowed to withhold funds for countries for which Congress intended them nor should disbursement be tied solely to "regressive" recommendations of organizations like the International Monetary Fund.

—Robert Lester

CONTENTS

Vol. 23, No. 7

NEWS & FEATURES

- 4 SCHOLARS SAY MEDIA AFFECT FOREIGN POLICY**
Three Washington think tank spokesmen explain the impact the press has on foreign policy and public opinion.
- 5 PERSONALITY FOCUS: FREDERICK HUTCHINSON**
by Roger Mahan
BIFAD Executive Director sees many similarities between government service and academic life.
- 6 ALL-WEATHER DRYER INCREASES INCOMES**
The University of Idaho and AID promote a food dryer usable with or without sun.
- 7 NEW CENTER STRENGTHENS AID'S PROGRAMS**
Information about AID programs is now more readily available. CDIE will assist in setting up development information centers with computer terminals and microfiche files for Agency use.
- 8 THAIS GET AID FOR CLEAN WATER**
by Eddie Caplan
Thailand's population planning "popfigure" has now aimed his boundless energy on clean water.
- 8 UNICEF PRAISES AID'S ORT EFFORT**
UNICEF Executive Director lauds AID for leading world-wide ORT effort.
- 9 MISSION OF THE MONTH: AID IN MAURITANIA**
by R. Maxine Stough

DEPARTMENTS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 12 Where in the World Are Aid Employees? | 16 Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance |
| 12 AID Briefs | 16 Board for International Food and Agricultural Development |
| 13 External Affairs | 16 Latin America and the Caribbean |
| 13 Speakers Circuit | 17 Office of the Science Advisor |
| 14 Equal Opportunity Programs | 17 Management |
| 14 Asia | 17 Bureau for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance |
| 14 Inspector General | 17 Africa |
| 15 Program and Policy Coordination | 18 Science and Technology |
| 15 Near East | |
| 15 Bureau for Private Enterprise | |

Front Lines, a publication for employees of the Agency for International Development, is published monthly by the Bureau for External Affairs. It has been reviewed and approved by the Communications Review Board.

All Agency employees are encouraged to contribute stories, pictures and ideas. Material should be submitted at least 21 days in advance of the next publication date to Editor, Front Lines, AID, Washington, DC 20523. Phone (202) 632-7094. Next Issue: August 15, 1984.

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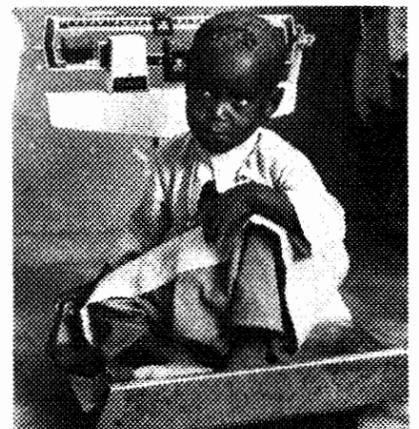
Photo Credits: Food dryer pictures on page 6—University of Idaho's Postharvest Institute for Perishables.



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Cover Photo: Mothers bring their children to Catholic Relief Services, nutrition centers for growth monitoring and food rations. AID's mission in Mauritania is Mission of the Month. Story begins on page 9.

OFDA Coordinates Guinea Relief Efforts

When a strong earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale rumbled through 16 villages in northern Guinea on the night of December 21, it killed 278 people and injured about 1,500. The first natural disaster in recent history of Guinea damaged all buildings and potable water wells and destroyed 4,500-5,000 homes. The entire population of 20,000 was left homeless.

AID, through the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), responded to relief needs by providing aid in the form of cash, fuel and foodstuffs sent in from Dakar. U.S. Ambassador James Rosenthal exercised his disaster authority, and OFDA responded by providing \$25,000 for immediate assistance. The Ambassador contributed \$10,000 to the U.N. Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) when it launched its international appeal for Guinea. The original \$25,000 was quickly increased to \$60,000.

At the request of OFDA, Vara La Foy, Dakar's disaster relief officer, traveled to the earthquake area for a first hand assessment. On the basis of her trip, 20 tons of powdered and condensed milk, vegetable oil, sugar and corned beef were purchased in Dakar for shipment to the disaster area. A ship was chartered, and AID officials assisted in the loading operation.

AID/Conakry contacted a Red Cross team to distribute the foodstuffs. While the Red Cross was equipped to keep track of the movement and distribution of the food, it needed 1,000 liters of diesel fuel. AID supplied the fuel, and one month later, the Red Cross reported the complete details of the distribution.



Relief team members found the December earthquake destroyed 4,500-5,000 homes throughout Guinea.

OFDA activities did not end there. Rehabilitation of the disaster-stricken area followed emergency relief. While the National Earthquake Center in Golden, CO, had recorded the earthquake, it could not assess the seismic stability of the area after the quake from its headquarters. That information was essential in determining if rehabilitation could take place in the same region.

AID arranged for a seismic team to visit the epicenter, which was in the Koumbia district about 250 km. north of the capital, Conakry. The team installed an 11-station network surrounding the epicentral area and made its first report by the end of January.

The earthquake had occurred on a preexisting fault. However, judging by the appearance and "slip rate" of the 9 km. fault, it was concluded that strong earthquakes would be infrequent. The team advised that repairs and rehabilitation could be done if the Guineans realized that future earthquakes were possible. They then indicated which additional studies would be helpful in determining the probable time span before the occurrence of another earthquake in Guinea.

OFDA also coordinated with the Regional Housing and Urban Development Office (RHUDO) in Abidjan to offer the government of Guinea engineering expertise to assess damages

and determine medium- to long-term needs for housing and infrastructure reconstruction and replacement. Scott Johnson, housing officer, arrived in Guinea on Jan. 23 and worked in seven of the 16 disaster-stricken villages. He reported that 100% of the superstructure was damaged to some extent and estimated that only about 25% of the buildings could be repaired.

The traditional round "cases" in Koumbia have two walls: a tall, inner wall within which the family lives and a shorter, outer wall which supports the conical roof. (A family's animals live between the two walls.) Johnson found that virtually all the interior walls had fallen, which is what caused most of the injuries. Many of the exterior walls had little apparent damage, and the conical roofs also fared well.

Following discussions with the Guineans, the engineer recommended that the damaged houses be rebuilt or repaired in place using improved or cement stabilized material. He also said that in some cases, traditional building materials could be used if earthquake resistant features were incorporated in the construction. Building techniques and technical specifications were given for both temporary and permanent shelters. A \$90,000 rebuilding project was prepared by Johnson and approved by OFDA.

The emergency is over—the Guineans have resumed normal activities outdoors. U.S. disaster relief assistance helped the villagers through the relief phase and will continue to assist during the rehabilitation phase. With the rebuilding project, they will learn how to construct safer buildings and homes.

The issues revealed by the Hay Survey, which a year ago measured employee attitudes and ideas about the Agency, have prompted AID to take actions to reform, simplify and improve its procedures, regulations and organizational structure.

One of those actions is a review to determine the effectiveness of the Foreign Service Assignment System from the viewpoint of both senior managers and the Foreign Service. The review, launched by the Office of Personnel Management, Bureau for Management, has identified ways to simplify procedures and regulations. To eliminate misconceptions about the open assignment system, M/PM has prepared a follow-up AID General Notice explaining how it works.

According to the survey, employees are ambivalent toward the role of training and guidance. While most say that they get enough guidance from management to plan and work effectively, many feel that they need additional technical training.

M/PM's Training and Development Division has prepared a training strategy for career employees that defines the core knowledge and skills that they will need as they progress

Hay Survey Results Prompt AID Actions

through their career. This strategy will guide future basic training and, depending on funds, it will determine the relevancy of various courses and study programs to the Agency's training activities and needs.

In addition, by the end of fiscal 1984, the training office plans to:

- Increase the number of project implementation courses from six to 10, with at least 75% of all employees trained coming from priority backstop areas.

- Develop a revised project management short course.
- Continue microcomputer training in the Training and Development Division's recently installed microcomputer training center.
- Revise the supervisory personnel management training program.
- Complete plans for a senior-level managerial training course.
- In cooperation with Agency sector councils, develop three new technical training modules to help improve

the skills of Agency technical staff.

To determine what factors Foreign Service officers weigh in bidding for posts, M/PM's Policy Development and Evaluation Division has completed an analysis of the financial incentives at different missions. The analysis ranks countries in terms of financial allowances available other than salary. A second phase of this study will define and measure other factors, such as health, safety and education facilities that affect an officer's decision to bid on one post or another. The ultimate purpose of the study is to determine whether the incentive structure positively influences the choice of posts that reflect AID priority needs.

Employees also indicated in the survey that they do not believe AID's various personnel evaluation systems work effectively. They are not convinced that hard work leads to recognition as a good performer. To address these concerns, M/PM will review both FS and civil service (GS)

employee evaluation and appraisal systems. The goal of the review is to find ways of making the systems more equitable, less complex and less burdensome. The key element of any evaluation system, however, is the willingness of raters to do honest, critical and fair evaluations which include both positive and negative factors, as appropriate.

Recognizing that the very nature of a worldwide organization poses unique problems for women, the Agency plans to explore problems facing tandem couples, the role of women in FS and employment opportunities for FS spouses. A recent survey by the Association of American Foreign Service Women about the attitudes of spouses toward FS life has resulted in a study that will be distributed to all foreign affairs agencies. AID is considering commissioning an analysis of the responses from AID spouses.

R. T. Rollis, assistant to the Administrator for management, and his staff are examining the status of women employees in development opportunities, hiring, promotion and tenuring trends to ensure that women receive equal opportunities and treatment.

Other actions taken or planned by
(continued on page 4)

Scholars Say Media Affect Foreign Policy

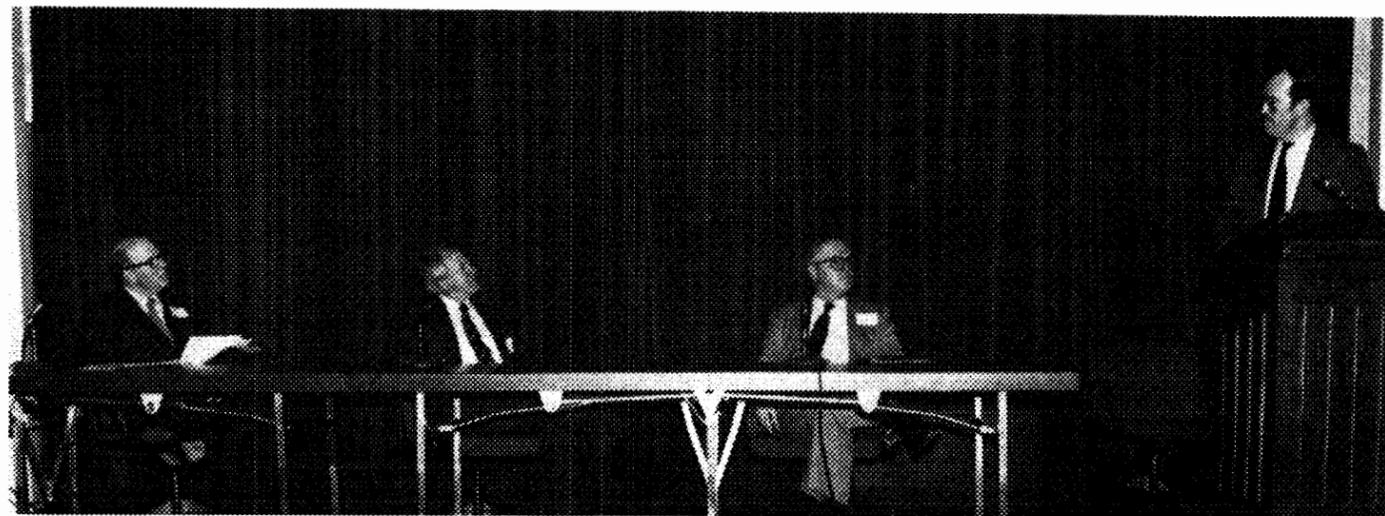
Public support for America's foreign policy is influenced by the way the government is viewed by the media, according to representatives of three Washington think tanks who spoke to AID employees and members of various organizations.

Hosted by Administrator McPherson, the scholars discussed "The Selling of Foreign Policy: the Media, the Public and Government" during the International Development Leaders' Forum held here at AID/W on June 19.

"Foreign policy is not served terribly well by journalists," according to Burton Pines, vice president for research at the Heritage Foundation. To prove his point, he used the press' "romanticism of Yassir Arafat," the treatment of El Salvador's "right wingers" and Nicaragua's "national liberation guerrillas" and the "killing of Benigno Aquino in the Philippines" as examples.

The former associate editor of *Time* magazine said the problem of access restricts reporting. He explained that in the United States reporters have access to events and news sources, but that in countries such as the Soviet Union, Western reporters have little knowledge of events so Soviet problems are not discussed in the media. What little access reporters have to Soviet sources of information, in the journalist's mind, needs to be protected. Reporting anything negative might "offend" Soviet sources and halt what little information is available, he said.

For an example of this situation, Pines cited a magazine feature which



Administrator McPherson (far right) introduces (from left) Burton Pines, vice president of the Heritage Foundation; Stephen Hess, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution; and William Schneider, resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute.

reported on the use of torture throughout the world. He said the article only discussed torture in countries that were "open," or where newsmen had access. Only one sentence in the extensive article referred to the possibility of torture in North Korea and no examples were given from the Soviet Union or its satellite countries, leaving the impression that torture does not exist in those countries. "Journalists blame the United States for all the world problems," he declared.

"The elite journalists are not on America's side," according to Pines. "The press' adversarial relationship with government is a mind-set that is reinforced by colleagues in the media."

William Schneider, political consultant and resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, acknowledged

the adversarial role of the press but said it was "not biased left or right." He said it was "anti-institutional and anti-establishment—the media don't trust power."

"Bad news drives out the good so people get a negative view of our institutions (such as government)," according to Schneider, whose job has been to analyze public opinion. When people are constantly exposed to negative viewpoints, distrust increases. Television exposes its audience to a wider range of (negative) information; therefore, more people distrust the government now than before television, he explained.

Schneider said, "People think the press is reasonably fair and accurate." According to a survey he quoted, people believe the press is fairer and more accurate than the

government. They see the media as a counterbalance to government. The survey, which was taken a few years ago, stated that 25% of Americans think the media are too critical of the government, but 40% say the media are not critical enough.

Stephen Hess, senior fellow in governmental studies at the Brookings Institution, spoke on the government's press relations and the role of press officers. He said that press secretaries are not as close to centers of power as the press portrays them. Press secretaries are not the sources of leaked information—leaks come from trusted, high officials, he emphasized.

Hess said the belief that government manipulates the press is "greatly exaggerated." In fact, he said, the government does not use or manipulate the press as much as it should.

Hay Survey

From page 3, column 4

M/PM include:

- To hire, by the end of fiscal 1984, seven employee counselors for both FS and GS staff.
- To continue working with State and other foreign affairs agencies in developing a more responsive program for Foreign Service National (FSN) classification and wage setting, including expansion of the grade scale to level 13 for exceptional individuals and simplification and decentralization of the administration of FSN compensation.
- Development of a minority and female recruitment program for both FS middle grades and International Development Interns.
- Improvement of procedures for identifying employees for training and for ensuring that they actually receive training.
- Review of a strategy for making sure that AID FS officers obtain the same privileges and immunities accorded officers in other foreign affairs agencies.
- Cooperation with State to strengthen and improve the FS allowance system, including the review of special incentive differential, separate maintenance allowance, hardship differential, danger pay and dependent care grants.
- Continuing the study on possibly

removing the ambassadorial pay cap on overseas officers' salaries.

Management also is aware of a general feeling in the Agency that the institutional processes are at times impersonal and ponderous and that employees waste time on seemingly unnecessary procedures.

One of the efforts being made to simplify the bureaucratic processes is what has been called the "Asia Bureau experiment." At the request of the Administrator and with assistance from AID's Project Implementation Task Force, the Asia Bureau embarked on an experiment in November 1983 to improve program management. The strategy includes streamlining preparation and review of Project Identification Documents and Country Development Strategy Statements, and strengthening mission implementation authority.

The Project Implementation Task Force also has worked to increase the field's project authority to keep pace with the delegation of project approval and amendment authority. In addition, the task force has proposed that assistant administrators be allowed to:

- Increase field authority to waive competition in host country procurement by requiring the approval of such waivers by the mission's non-competitive review board.
- Increase mission authority to waive source/origin/nationality requirements

for various commodities as well as for U.S. motor vehicle procurement.

The Office of Financial Management (M/FM) will expand the use of the Mission Accounting Control System (MACS) in five to six more missions in fiscal 1984. The office also is analyzing the use of microcomputers for a reduced version of MACS for smaller missions.

M/FM plans to increase the use of public accounting firms to provide accounting and financial management consulting services to assist in the monitoring of mission responsibilities.

Through the Payment Verification

Task Force recommendations and the Office of Management and Budget concerns over internal control, M/FM is encouraging analyses of vulnerability early in the project planning, design and selection processes.

As part of the effort to improve communication among the staff and encourage a frank dialogue, management hopes that employees will continue to communicate concerns and ideas on how to improve the system. Comments should be sent to Ain Kivimae, deputy assistant to the administrator for Management, Room 3932NS.

Trap Aids Insect Study

Soybean scientists in a number of countries are now using a new simple insect trap developed by the International Soybean Program (INTSOY) at the university of Illinois to study the movement of several insects that cause severe damage to the crop.

The device, named the horizontal mosaic green-pan trap, is designed to give a nearly absolute landing rate of all species of aphids in a field. The trap consists of a 12-centimeter-square ceramic tile of rugose texture and a color that closely resembles that of

mature soybean leaves.

The tile is placed in a plastic sandwich box and attached to a vertical rod driven into the ground. The box is filled with a 50% solution of ethylene glycol in water. Ethylene glycol helps reduce evaporation, and a liquid-filled trap reduces labor costs and preserves aphids in an easily identifiable condition. Three or four horizontal mosaic traps are ample to determine numbers of aphids landing in a field.

The same technique also can be used to monitor the activity of thrips.

PERSONALITY FOCUS

Frederick Hutchinson

by Roger Mahan

With a voice that sounds a little like the New England Yankee long featured in Pepperidge Farm commercials, Fred Hutchinson regales visitors with funny stories about his native Maine. Hutchinson, executive director of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), explains that many of these stories deal with exaggerated claims about Maine's truly harsh winters. Others tend to reflect the Yankee penchant for understatement. And virtually all of them would lose something if told without the proper inflection and clipped accent.

Some stories deal with the gullibility of city slickers who fall into the hands of rural Mainers. Hutchinson tells of a small Maine inn that keeps three thermometers on its veranda. When asked for a temperature reading, the inn's owners always give the total temperature of all three thermometers. Inhabitants of the town know to divide any reading from the inn by three; however, one of the nation's large, well-respected newspapers once printed the inn's temperature "reading" verbatim in an article headlined "Record 90 Below Zero Temperature Hits Maine Community."

Hutchinson relates with some pride that he's known for his stories about Atkinson, a town of 200 in the center of Maine where he spent much of his

boyhood. When he came to Washington to head up the BIFAD staff, he considered discarding his tradition of telling at least one Maine story at professional meetings. By then, however, his reputation as a raconteur had grown and people began asking why he no longer told stories.

The understated side of the Yankee is apparent in Hutchinson. Throughout a wide-ranging interview, he never once mentioned his recent election as fellow to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a prestigious scientific association.

Hutchinson has spent most of his career as a faculty member and administrator at the University of Maine in Orono. A specialist in soil acidity, Hutchinson is credited with helping build the university's soil sciences program.

His teaching career is complemented by achievements in research. Chief among these is his pioneering, six-year study of the environmental effects of salting highways. The study led to significant changes in winter road maintenance practices during the early 1970s.

Many northeastern states used to dump tons of salt on highways to retard ice formation during the winter. Hutchinson called attention to the damaging effect that this heavy salting had on water tables and rivers. His research also demonstrated that significantly smaller amounts of salt would prevent icing. When the results

of his research were released, many states and communities cut the amount of salt applied to highways by up to one-third. His work saved the state of Maine \$750,000 annually.

Hutchinson became known as a leading expert on this issue, and he was invited to address numerous conferences and offer testimony to several Congressional committees.

The beneficial effects of Hutchinson's research have touched virtually every region in the United States where icy highways can be a problem. But the roots of Hutchinson's interest in science and agriculture go back to the small towns and villages of central Maine.

“My major accomplishment here has been to spend time working with the universities on their campuses.”

When he was 12 years old, Hutchinson's family moved from Atkinson to Dover Foxcroft, which had a population of about 2,000. The move introduced a charismatic figure who left an indelible stamp on Hutchinson.

“We lived next door to the county (extension) agent in Dover Foxcroft. And I must say that he became my hero,” Hutchinson recalls. “I thought the role he played in working with people was magnificent. Everybody knew him, everybody liked him, and everybody went to him for assistance and advice. It seemed to me that was just a wonderful position. And when I went to college, which was an unheard of thing—nobody in my family ever had—he got me a scholarship. I wanted to go to college and be just like him. I had every intention of being a county agent and spending my life somewhere working in that role.”

Although Hutchinson never got to work as a county agent, he considers that these youthful ambitions have been fulfilled in principle because many of the things he has done during his career are similar to the work of a county agent. He has worked closely with farmers, spoken frequently before farm organizations, and worked closely with extension services.

Instead, his path led to academic life. After graduating from the University of Maine in 1953, he took a job as a plant breeder for the Asgrow Seed Co. Less than a year later, the university offered him an opportunity to run its seed and soil testing laboratories. Along with that assignment, the university allowed him to work on a master's degree. With his heavy workload it took him until 1958 to get the master's, and at that time he was offered an appointment to the faculty. He accepted.

“I could see that in any university you were going to need a doctorate to be able to continue to compete,” Hutchinson notes. So he spent a year's residence at Penn State University in 1960. It took him until 1966 to complete the research for his thesis and obtain his doctoral degree. “I was one of those that took a long time

to get there,” he comments.

At Penn State, he was about 10 years older than the other students in his classes, Hutchinson recalls. “I had been teaching and experiencing this work, and so when I took so many of these courses, boy, I really wanted that information. I was really enthusiastic about my classes because they were relevant to me. I absorbed the information. I knew I needed it.

As someone who had loved student life, it was natural that Hutchinson enjoyed teaching. “I enjoyed teaching and research—an ideal combination. The opportunity to work with students was a great pleasure. I had gained full professorship, the highest level that's accorded in any university, so I ask myself sometimes, ‘Why did I ever leave that?’

“What is it that leads us to go into administration?” Hutchinson muses. In his case, it was an opportunity to serve as chairman of the department. And he loved it. “I had the best of all possible worlds then, because I was able to work with the university administration helping other professors move forward with their programs and still teach some classes and have some time for research. I'd gotten the bug. Then the deanship of the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture opened, and somebody nominated me for it. All of a sudden I was selected and there was no turning back. As dean, I was no longer teaching, because there was no longer the time to give it the attention it deserved.”

Since 1972, Hutchinson has spent full time in administration. Ultimately, he reached the post of vice president for research and public service before taking a leave of absence to assume duties at BIFAD. These years of administrative experience helped lay a foundation for the role he has taken with BIFAD.

Hutchinson has been involved with BIFAD since it was created in 1976. In the beginning, he chaired BIFAD's Joint Research Committee, one of the two initial advisory committees to the BIFAD board. That assignment lasted three years. Since August 1982, he has been BIFAD executive director, a position he has come to enjoy very much.

“The last two years here at AID have been an exciting experience,” Hutchinson declares. “When this opportunity came along, I was ready to accept a new challenge, but I had no idea how good a one it was until I came. I thought it would be a good opportunity, but not this good.”

Hutchinson notes that there are many similarities between government service and academic life. “There is the bureaucracy, which you find in both spheres, but the bureaucracy here is more intense, due, no doubt, to the immense size of government. The larger an organization is, the more rules and regulations there are,” he notes.

Hutchinson says that he's been impressed by the dedication of his co-workers. “I came here expecting to find that federal employees were clock watchers, much less committed than the average faculty member. I've been absolutely amazed at how incorrect that impression was. I don't know the

(continued on page 6)



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All-Weather Dryer Increases Incomes

A refrigerator door opening and swishing shut—familiar sounds in American homes—are seldom heard in most developing country households. Without refrigeration there are only a few days to use fruits and vegetables before they spoil. A common solution is to slice or dice the produce and spread it on the ground in the sun to dry.

However, this basic kind of solar drying depends on good weather. The University of Idaho's Postharvest Institute for Perishables (PIP), funded by AID, recently helped develop an all-weather solar food dryer. The device is a drying cabinet mounted on a charcoal-burning clay pot. It is inexpensive, easy-to-use and constructed from locally available materials.

The Idaho design was tested in the Philippines. Trials focused primarily on temperature control and heat distribution. A food and nutrition specialist and an agricultural mechanization specialist from PIP worked with Filipino extension agents from Visayas State College of Agriculture (VISCA). They constructed a solar dryer on site, making charcoal from coconut shells and husks. The charcoal burned smokelessly and did not taint the food.

Food drying experiments were performed at VISCA with various fruits and vegetables, and the drying chamber was modified so that it could be used as a baking oven. Illustrated training manuals describing the dryer in English as well as Cebuano, the local language, also were prepared at VISCA. Because Filipino extension workers were involved in constructing

and operating the dryer, they, in turn, were able to teach villagers the process.

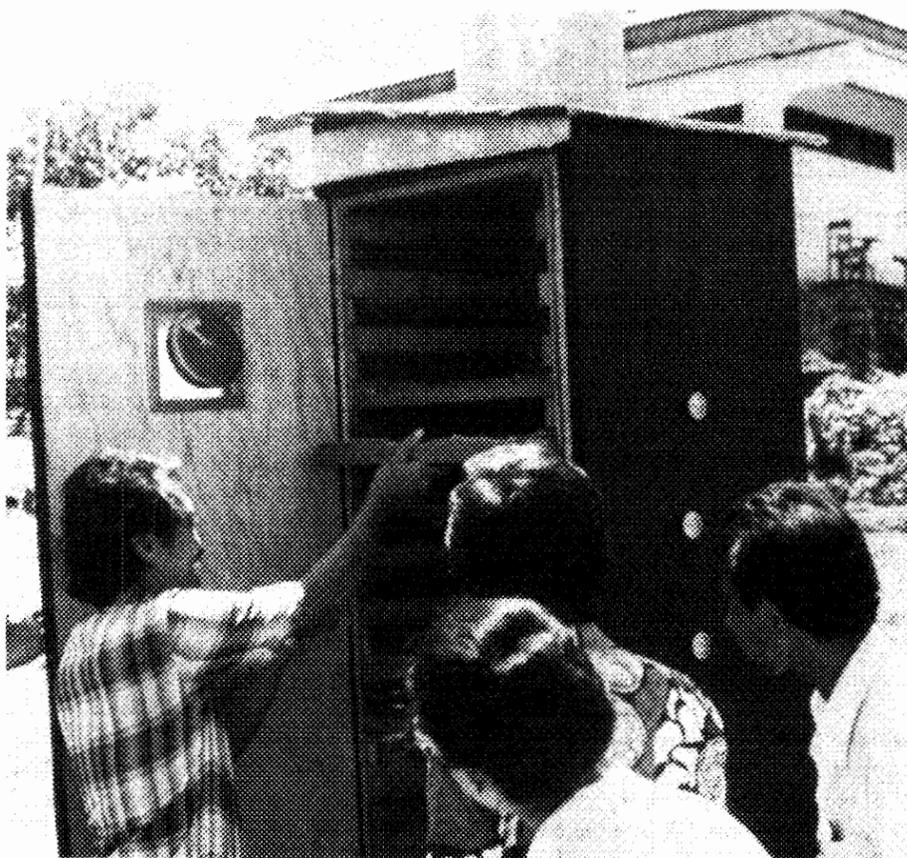
The extension workers visited villages to explain solar dryers and gauge local interest in building and using them. Villagers were eager to participate. In less than a week, three villages had constructed dryers. All were made with local materials like split bamboo, scrap lumber, or old sheet metal, which kept unit cost to \$25.

Mangoes, papayas, bananas, plantains, coconuts, and other local fruits were dehydrated. The fruits were usually sliced or cubed, then dried to about a 5% moisture content. They were then stored in sealed plastic bags.

During the trials, it was discovered that drying makes iba and balimbing, two tart wild fruits, more appetizing. Researchers discovered the two fruits became more palatable when dried after first being soaked in sugared water.

Sweet cassava, yams, sweet potatoes, and taro also were sliced or cubed and then dried to about 10% moisture content. Cooking cubed, dried cassava in oil became a popular way to reconstitute it. When salted, it tastes like fried potatoes.

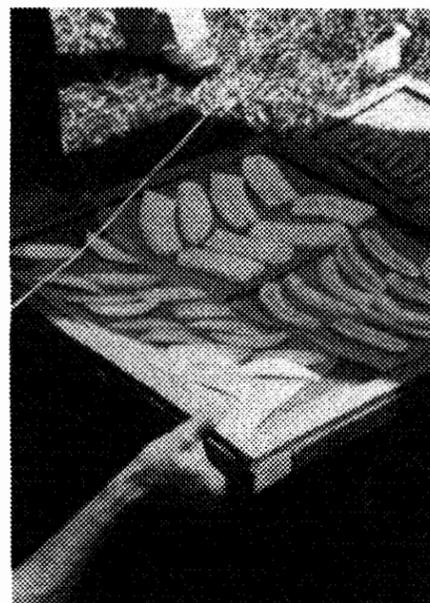
Researchers pronounced the solar dryer project in the Philippines a success. They found that solar dryers added approximately 20% to the average family income by preventing food loss from improper or inadequate storage. Family incomes can increase even more because preserved food can be transported to the cities, thus opening opportunities for cottage industries.



Filipinos prepare fruit for drying (right) before placing it in the village's all-weather dryer. Constructed from locally available materials, the dryer is inexpensive and easy to use.

Dietary improvements also resulted from solar dryers. The average villager's diet, composed mainly of rice and fish, is deficient in vitamins, protein, calories, niacin, riboflavin, and calcium. Dried fruits and vegetables can supply many of these essential nutrients.

This article was written by Robert Skiles, director of PIP. For more information, he may be contacted at PIP, 216 Morrill Hall, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843.



Hutchinson

From page 5, column 4

whole federal government, I only know what I see around me here, and I mean this whole building—not just AID.

"I see people coming and going at all hours. I'm here on weekends and I see a lot of people in here working on weekends. And I hear people talking about their work quite unrelated to time. I'm convinced that there are an awful lot of federal employees here at State and AID who really believe that what they're doing is making a big difference. In some ways, I have found some of these people to be even more excited about what they are doing than people in the universities."

From his BIFAD vantage point, Hutchinson can maintain contact with both academia and government. And enhancing communication between the two is the accomplishment of which Hutchinson is most proud.

"I consider my major accomplishment here has been to spend a lot of time working with the universities on their campuses. I visited 26 universities this last year. These visits are all requested by the universities. I feel good about establishing this channel of communication.

"I'm also very proud of my success at recruiting a deputy director of the quality of Priscilla Boughton. The board felt very strongly that the office would benefit greatly from having someone in that position who had worked as the director of an AID mission, because after all, that's where AID's work is. It's in the countries—not here. Having somebody like Mrs. Boughton brings in a perspective from the Agency that we have not had before. It helps us better fulfill our role as an interface between the universities and the Agency," Hutchinson says.

Another accomplishment of which Hutchinson is proud is the creation of the framework in which universities receiving Strengthening Grants will graduate to signing Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), or long-term relationships with AID. During his tenure, the first MOUs have been signed, demonstrating the success of BIFAD's efforts to improve the capabilities of the nation's land and sea grant universities in assisting AID's work overseas.

Hutchinson is also proud of the work he did heading up the evaluation team which reviewed the work of CIAT, the tropical crop research center in Colombia. CIAT, one of the

international agricultural research centers, receives 25% of its funding from AID. He spent five weeks in Colombia with the eight-member multinational evaluation team, which produced unanimous recommendations. Hutchinson is also justly proud that the complete evaluation report was completed on time, and needed little revision after its initial submission.

For the future, Hutchinson hopes to help increase the role that historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) will play in AID's work. "These colleges have a lot to offer AID, and more needs to be done to include them in our activities," he notes. "We hope to move forward in that area during the year remaining in my leave of absence from the University of Maine," Hutchinson notes.

BIFAD's executive director says that he's never put a lot of time into developing hobbies because "I've always enjoyed my work so much that was enough." He does, however, emphasize the importance of family life. Though a man with a busy schedule who is called upon to travel frequently, he feels it is important to set aside time for his family. He and wife Dione have two daughters.

Hutchinson also has been active in the Methodist church, serving as

chairman of the building committee for his church in Orono, and in other positions of responsibility.

Additionally, Hutchinson is dedicated to getting some form of physical exercise as often as possible. For many years he had been a runner, but since living in Washington he has taken up bicycling. "The bicycle paths here are ideal," he notes. Although the health benefits of vigorous exercise are important to him, he points out that his main motivation is the opportunity that exercising affords him to clear his mind of everyday cares and to get out into the fresh air.

When asked on what note he would like to end his career, Hutchinson pauses and then objects to the basis for the question. "I've never been one of those who set clear-cut career goals for myself. Instead, I've just been fortunate to take advantage of some of the opportunities that have come my way. Although I can see a time when one may want to cut back on one's activities, for myself, I don't expect to reach a point where I'm not making a contribution. I hope to be able to continue to make a contribution as long as that contribution can fulfill a need."

Mahan is senior editor of Horizons.

New Center Strengthens AID's Programs

The Agency's development information and statistical functions have been combined with its evaluation function in the Center for Development Information and Evaluation (CDIE). The new center offers more services and more useful information for all of the Agency's offices, bureaus and missions.

The reorganization was the result of recommendations from a task force chaired by Director of Legislative Affairs Kelly Kammerer. After studying how AID could better learn from lessons of the past, the task force recommended reforming the Agency's development information, economic and social statistics and evaluation activities.

Since the beginning of the fiscal year, CDIE has processed over 2,500 requests for information. Answers to these queries is one way that CDIE works to improve AID performance. Examples of the kinds of requests that

the center receives are in the table, below left.

CDIE's "home" is in the Bureau of Program and Policy Coordination so that lessons from AID's development history can be more readily applied to help guide the planning of new program strategies and projects.

The new center will improve the quality of AID and developing country programs by strengthening:

- The Agency's capacity to acquire and transform technical, statistical and evaluation information on development experience into useful program planning guidance.
- Application of lessons learned in program management and policy formulation.
- Dissemination of development information and evaluation experience and methods to AID staff, developing countries and other donors.

The resources available to CDIE include:

- AID's memory bank with 35,000 technical reports, project papers and evaluations for more than 3,000 projects. These are available on both a computerized system and on microfiche.
- AID economic and social data bases, containing hundreds of statistical time series for 180 countries. The national statistics include indicators of demographic, social, agricultural and economic trends and conditions in developing countries. Data base sources include the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and others.
- AID's mid-term project evaluations (300-350 prepared each year) and over 100 reports in the impact evaluation series.
- A professional staff knowledgeable and experienced in evaluation methodology, organization of impact evaluation studies, statistical data collection, processing and interpretation and in development information processing and reference services.

"We have two main tasks in improving CDIE's service to the Agency," said Haven North, the center's recently appointed director. "First, we must improve the quality and relevance of the development information available to AID staff. Second, we must improve staff access to this information. On the first matter, we surveyed AID interests and program priorities and prepared an agenda (see box on right) for 1984-85. From the studies undertaken in this agenda, CDIE will have a series of impact evaluation reports and development experience syntheses for dissemination."

To date there are completed impact evaluation series on irrigation, rural roads, rural electrification, education, agricultural research, and community water supply. In addition, there are a number of special studies on private sector programs, private voluntary organizations, women in development, livestock development, a manager's guide to data collection and a guide for project designers and project managers. All are based on lessons learned from the AID project portfolio.

"To improve AID staff access to available development experience

beyond that passed on from one individual to another has proved to be a particularly challenging task," North said.

Perhaps the most significant CDIE plan will decentralize the development information system. As rapidly as computer systems in the Agency permit, and bureaus and missions wish, CDIE

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We must improve the quality and relevance of departmental information available to AID staff and improve access to this information.
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will assist in setting up development information centers with computer terminals and microfiche files. Once set up, individual staff members will be able to make their own information searches without having to direct their inquiries to the CDIE office in Rosslyn.

One such center is located in Room 3659NS. Maxine Redmond, a CDIE staff member, is working there to assist AID staff with their requests. The Asia Bureau soon will have a unit in its Evaluation Office. Several missions have asked for assistance in setting up development information centers in both their own offices and possibly in host country institutions.

Meanwhile, CDIE has enlarged its own technical information staff to carry out searches for information and prepare tailor-made reports requested by AID personnel.

CDIE will continue to distribute its impact evaluation reports and special studies. Development experience abstracts provide quick reading summaries for busy AID managers. Conferences and workshops are being planned to further explore and draw together the valuable development experience of AID professionals and other experts.

Technical assistance from CDIE will be available for Agency staff to help them find and use AID's economic and social data banks, data collection methodology, information on project planning and evaluation, as well as on evaluation procedures.

When requested, CDIE will arrange for the transfer of selected data bases to bureau and mission microcomputers. Country economic and social data-bases recently were transferred to the Sahel Regional Program Office in Bamako, Mali, and to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture in Costa Rica.

CDIE is responsible for overseeing the Agency's evaluation system and is working with bureau evaluation offices on ways to strengthen AID's evaluation program. "We are particularly interested in making evaluation assignments more attractive professionally and more rewarding for Agency personnel," said Paula Goddard, CDIE deputy director. "We would welcome suggestions from AID staff."

The center is now located in SA-14 and SA-18 in Rosslyn. The staff welcomes AID program documents not likely to be in the AID Memory Bank to more accurately reflect the Agency's work. They also welcome ideas and suggestions on how their services might be better-tailored to Agency staff needs.

CDIE's mailing address is Room 611, SA-14. Development information requests and documents should be referred to CDIE in Room 215, SA-18.

Examples of Requests

The AID mission in Jamaica needs information on management training and regional graduate schools of management. An International Development intern wants a print-out of population projects in Latin America from 1979 to the present. The Near East Planning Office needs a print-out of all AID experience in agricultural credit.

The Regional Economic Development Services Office in Abidjan could use statistics on agricultural production, area and yields for major commodities of West African countries. The Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean's Office of Development Resources needs assistance in developing a plan to analyze survey data from a health service project in El Salvador.

The AID mission in Nepal wants worldwide references on female education. The Bureau for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance requests recent evaluations for Bangladesh, Haiti, and Mali.

A staff member from the Office of a Regional Inspector General requests a Dunn & Bradstreet reference. An AID contractor requests full abstracts for family planning projects in the Near East and Africa. The Bureau for Science and Technology's Office of International Training urgently needs a copy of a 1983 project paper on training in the Caribbean. The Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination's Office of Planning and Budget call for projections of population growth in all AID countries.

The AID mission in Bangladesh asks for economic and social time series data. The Office of the General Counsel for housing wants graphics showing urbanization trends and projections for major cities in developing countries. The AID mission in Mauritania would like assistance in drafting a scope of work for a rural roads baseline survey.

CDIE Development Experience Reviews

1984-85 Agenda

PROJECT IMPACT EVALUATIONS

- Agricultural Dryland Production Programs
- Mountain Slope Farming Systems
- Agricultural Input Services
- Area Development: Multi-Component Projects
- LDC Institutions of Professional and Higher Education
- Professional LDC Education in the United States
- Development Program Management
- Technology Generation, Transfer and Diffusion
- Indigenous Private Enterprise Development
- Private Sector Support Institutions
- Small-Scale Enterprises
- Institutional Development for Health Services
- Selected Country Program Impact Reviews
- Program Aid: Commodity Import Program and P.L. 480

DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE SYNTHESSES

Employment Generation, Cost Recovery and Subsidies Reduction, Women in Development, Urban Development and Poverty, Wood Energy and Program Options, Organizational Alternatives of Population Programs, Project Design and Implementation Alternatives, Evaluation and Data Collection Methodologies.

CDIE welcomes observations on any of the agenda topics from AID staff based on their personal experience.

Thais Get Aid for Clean Water

by Eddie Caplan

Mechai Viravaidya made family planning so acceptable and matter-of-fact in Thailand that condoms are sold along with cabbages and the country's population growth has plunged from 3.3% in 1973 to 1.8% now—"and it soon will be 1.71%."

Now Mechai has turned his seemingly boundless energy to another development subject—clean water for Thai villages.

Mechai for years headed Thailand's family planning effort, winning worldwide fame for his flamboyant methods. Now he runs the country's agency for water systems outside Bangkok.

Mechai visited AID/W in May while in the United States to seek support—both moral and financial—for his water program. While he was in Washington, the AID mission in Bangkok signed a \$5.7 million loan agreement with the Thai government to finance training and other means of improving the capability of Mechai's staff. About 30% of the loan will fund repairs and other improvements in rural water systems, many of which AID financed about 20 years ago.

The water problem outside Bangkok

(another government agency has jurisdiction inside the capital city) is a serious one, according to Mechai. "In the dry months, 60% of the rural people lack clean water. There are too many deaths from unclean water."

By the end of the 1980s—the United Nations decade promoting clean water—the percentage of rural Thais without clean water will be higher because the population is growing faster than the funding for water systems.

Rivers supply most of the village water systems. Distilleries, canneries and other such industries are fouling the rivers, Mechai relates. Not only does this contaminate villages' water supply, but it also harms the fishing, which is an important source of protein.

Actually, Mechai says, about half of the rural water systems have quantity problems—that is, they don't produce enough water—and about half of the rest have quality problems—the water they produce isn't as good as it should be. Mechai's agency, the Provincial Water Works Authority, which has about 5,000 employees, runs 180 village systems and supervises 660 smaller systems operated by local authorities. Together, these systems

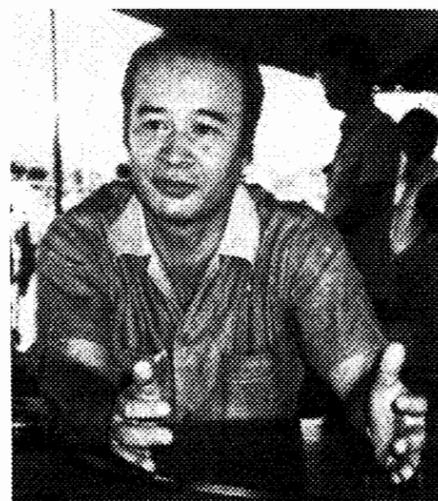
serve 4.2 million people.

The Agency has budgeted \$20 million to expand the system by 1989. But by then the portion of the population that gets safe water in normal months will have diminished from 50% to 42% because of population growth.

Mechai's avocation is still the promotion of family planning—"it's my evening occupation," he says—out of belief that the reduction in population growth is the best way to promote economic development. For more than 10 years he has promoted family planning in a light-hearted way that succeeded in removing the taboo against contraception. It was his belief that contraceptives should be easily obtained, so he enlisted the help of shopkeepers, farmers, hairdressers, midwives, even taxi drivers in distributing condoms and family planning information.

Mechai, something of a genius at public relations, demonstrated his methods during his visit to AID. He gave to almost everyone he met a key ring from which dangled a plastic square bearing the legend "break in case of emergency"; encased in the square is a brightly colored condom.

This kind of gimmickry has paid off.



"There are too many deaths from unclean water."

A few years ago, Mechai says, only 11% of Thailand's couples were practicing family planning. The figure is now 60%. Moreover, the population growth rate has continued to decrease.

Mechai hopes the family planning programs he made so successful through creative public relations will help make his job of providing clean water less difficult.

Caplan, an information specialist in the Publications and Information Division of the Bureau for Science and Technology's (S&T) Office of Technical Review and Information, is S&T's Front Lines correspondent.

ORT Effort Gets Praise of UNICEF

The Agency's work to promote simple low-cost health technologies such as oral rehydration therapy (ORT) was lauded recently by UNICEF Executive Director James P. Grant. According to Grant, AID has been the "major pioneer" promoting ORT use, saving hundreds of thousands of children who might otherwise have died from the debilitating effects of diarrhea.

Grant's comments came at a Washington conference, "Global Crossroads: Educating Americans for Responsible Choices." The conference was aimed primarily at university faculty and primary and secondary school teachers, but also attracted participants from business, labor, and private and voluntary organizations.

In his remarks, Grant noted that mankind has made tremendous progress in combatting disease, poverty, and illiteracy during the last 30 years. The problem of our time, he said, was whether such progress can continue unabated.

Administrator McPherson, whose emphasis on ORT was singled out for praise by Grant, also spoke at the conference.

McPherson agreed that great progress has been made during the last 30 years. Many of the problems confronting developing countries, such as overpopulation, are symptoms of success, he suggested. Population growth rates indicate more children are living, and show the success of such

advances as the green revolution, McPherson said.

However, McPherson added, continued improvements in living conditions in the developing world are going to involve changing some of the approaches to development that have been tried by many Third World countries. The "statist" or central planning approach as applied by some African countries during the last 20 years has failed, McPherson observed. To solve their problems, he said, such nations will have to consider long-term policy reforms which make use of incentives for individuals to produce more goods, and involve market pricing and allocation systems.

Furthermore, according to McPherson, security concerns threaten economic development. "It's hard to make economic progress in the middle of a war," McPherson said. Security concerns are particularly important for economic progress in Central America, McPherson pointed out, since conflict there contributed to an economic downturn which has resulted in a 20% unemployment rate. As a result, he suggested, policy and social reforms must be complemented by efforts to maintain political stability and order if development is to continue to move ahead.

The UNICEF chief urged that the momentum of progress can best be maintained through the application of simple, low-cost solutions like ORT, which can easily be made available. Advances in health-care technology mean that over half the childhood deaths in the world today could be eliminated if mothers returned to breast-feeding, had their children vaccinated against the six main childhood diseases, and were taught to use ORT to treat diarrheal dehydration.

These dramatic results will not happen unless channels of communication spread the word that they are achievable, Grant said. "The chief impediment to immunization of the world's children is that mothers don't bring them in to be immunized," Grant declared. "We're not using the communications media effectively to spread the word about things like ORT. "ORT is under utilized only because people are not aware of it. Results can be dramatic if we mobilize the channels of communication—radio, television, the clergy and educators—in order to

make every mother aware that the technology exists to save her child."

Grant cited AID's role as the leader in this budding effort to spread the word about ORT. To further this worldwide communications effort, AID has produced two short films on ORT which discuss the benefits of ORT and show how easy it is to use. Though the films were designed with government officials and health professionals in mind, the Agency hopes to air them on television stations around the world to increase public awareness of ORT.

Four AID Teenagers Receive Foreign Service Scholarships

Four AID teenagers are among 25 graduating high school students named as winners of the 1984 Slade Merit Awards. The awards for academic excellence and outstanding leadership have been presented in memory of Clarke Winship Slade, educator and adviser to the scholarship program for Foreign Service juniors. Funds for the \$500 awards are provided from the Association of American Foreign Service Women's (AAFSW) Book Fair and the American Foreign Service Association (AFSA) Scholarship Fund, according to Dawn Cuthell, scholarship programs administrator.

Winners were chosen by four review panels consisting of 24 volunteers from AAFSW, AFSA, State and AID. They include:

- Douglas Chang, who is the son of John and Sally Chang, posted in the Dominican Republic. He plans to study

computer science at California Institute of Technology.

- Robert Chase, who is the son of Robert and Joan Chase, posted at Rabat. He plans to attend Williams College, where he will study political science and physics.

- Monique Morrissey, who is the daughter of Dennis and Michelle Morrissey, plans to attend Swarthmore College. Her father is the deputy director of the Office of Egypt Affairs, Bureau for Near East.

- Amy Russell is the daughter of Christopher H. Russell, who is posted in Paris. She plans to attend Yale.

Honorable mentions went to: Linda Garufi, daughter of Ray Garufi, Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad; Brienne Merritt, whose father Charles Merritt is assigned to USAID/Kenya; and Monica Morse, daughter of Ted Morse, Regional Development Office, Caribbean.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

AID in Mauritania

by Maxine Stough

The sun slips toward the Atlantic Ocean, bathing Mauritania's capital in muted evening light. Down the street, with its gutters filled with drifting sand, a small group of camels heads home.

"Home" is a corral behind a house. Or it is outside of a shack in one of the shanty towns growing at the outskirts of Nouakchott. The owners are nomads who once ranged over Mauritania's plains.

Then, the dry and wet seasons were predictable. In the dry season, the nomads would herd their livestock south to the country's once grassy savannas. In the wet season, they would head north where run-off from the plateaus fed the valleys.

Then, oases were plentiful and produced enough dates and gum arabic for export. Then, too, Nouakchott—the location of AID's mission in Mauritania—was miles from the Sahara. Now, the capital is *in* the

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The drought that Mauritania suffers today is the same drought that captured the world's attention in the early 1970s.
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Sahara. A declining environment, marked by drought and desertification, is forcing Mauritania's nomads to abandon a lifestyle that is centuries old.

"Mauritania is changing," says AID Mission Director Don Miller, pointing out that these changes run more deeply than the landscape. "Environmental change is dictating the way people live." Accelerating this change is a drought that for the last 12 years has gripped this nation four-fifths

the size of Alaska.

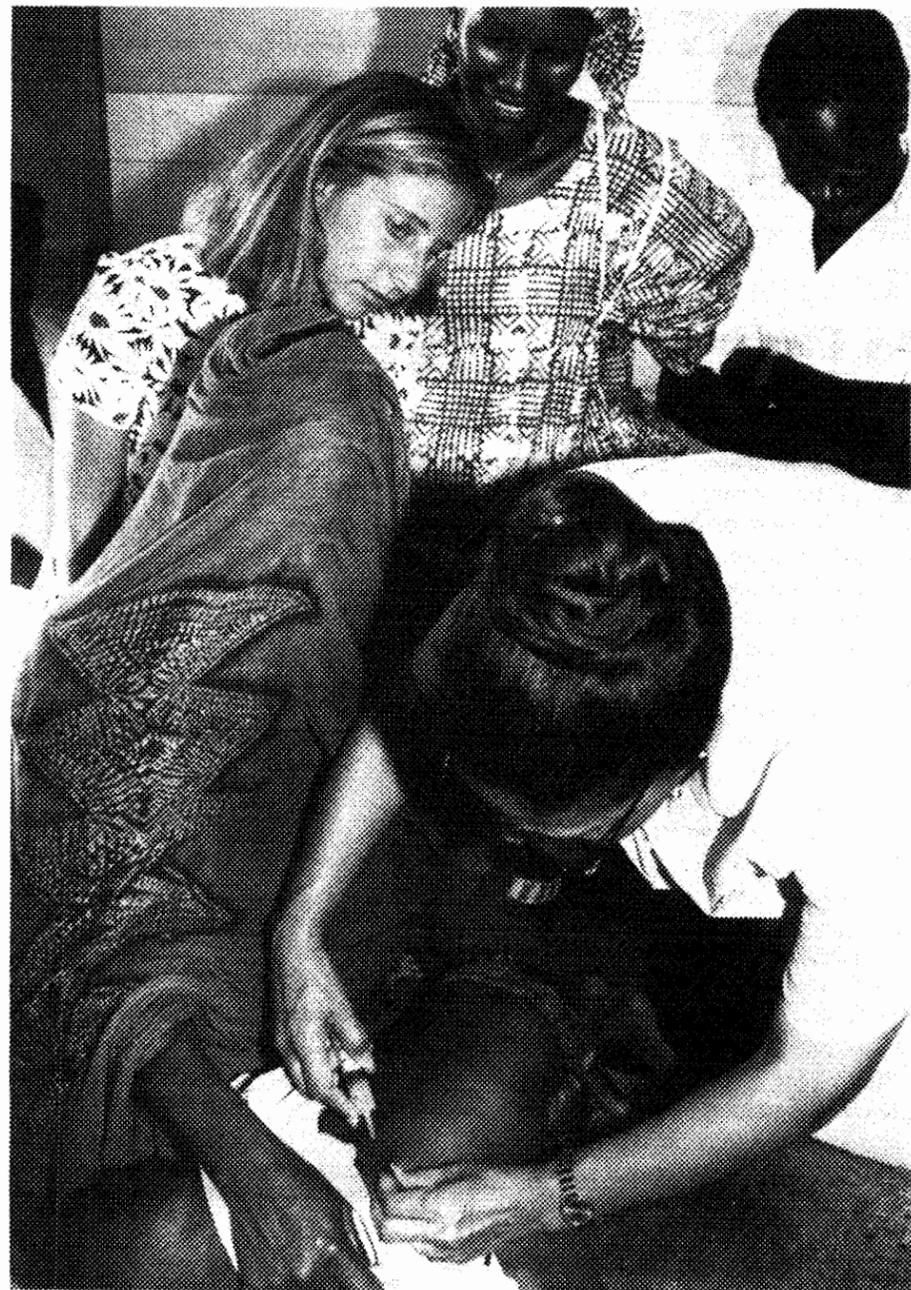
"The drought that Mauritania suffers today is the same drought that captured the world's attention in the early 1970s," says Chris Brown, an international development intern (IDI) in the Project Development Office. "The patient went into remission in the late 1970s, but things started to deteriorate again in the early part of this decade. Nouakchott hasn't had a good rain in two years."

Drought and a deteriorating environment are the masters in Mauritania. At base, they are the culprits in a worsening economic picture. In 1983, the country produced 6-7% of its food needs. Between 1980 and 1982, the trade deficit increased from \$100 million to \$169 million. Since the drought years of the early 1970s, balance-of-payments deficits have tripled.

"Fully 40% of the country's imports are food. Even in good years the rural sector rarely generates more than one-quarter of the country's wealth—as low a proportion as you will find anywhere in the poorer parts of Africa," explains Miller. "The resulting economic sluggishness accounts for the widening deficits in the country's internal and external accounts and the increasing difficulty it faces in servicing its foreign debt."

"We are in the foreign-exchange-saving business, rather than the foreign-exchange-earning business," Miller continues. Therefore, the major goal of the AID program, he says, is to increase Mauritania's capacity to achieve some measure of food security so that food imports will constitute less of a drain on foreign exchange. "We see this as the most important contribution that we can make economically."

To achieve this goal, the mission will direct much of its resources to developing the agricultural potential of the southernmost area of the country—a narrow band of land that runs along the Senegal River. Meanwhile, a multi-donor effort will build two dams



The mission's \$5 million Rural Health Services Project concentrates three-quarters of its funds on an immunization campaign directed at 10 of the country's 12 regions plus the federal district of Nouakchott. IDI Betsy Brown (directly behind veiled mother) visits one of the maternal and child health clinics where children up to five years of age are being vaccinated.

on the river—one at the mouth and one near the Malian border in the east. This will open a range of possibilities to increase agricultural production.

So the mission is now in what Miller calls the "building phase" in preparation for a major Mauritania River Valley Development Project which will get under way in three or four years.

The "building phase" begins this year with a \$4 million agricultural research project. Richard Goldman, agricultural development officer and acting deputy director, says that its major emphasis is training and institutional development. Designed to strengthen the agricultural research station and school in Kaedi, "it will put in place a cadre of Mauritians trained to carry out agricultural research," Goldman says.

The next step will be to fully explore the region's agricultural needs and to determine among other things what will work. That is a function that the \$1.5 million Dirol Agricultural Project, to begin next year, will perform. For example, it will determine what kind of water control system would be best for the valley. "From the lessons that this project teaches us, we will launch our development of the river valley in 1986-87," Miller says.

"We need to concentrate on areas where prospects are somewhat bright. The river valley is about all that's left under the circumstances that now exist," the director continues. But, he

points out, another bright spot for the future are the Mauritanian people. "Our training program will develop the country's best resource—the people."

Aside from the regional Sahel Manpower Development Project and training elements in specific bilateral projects, in the six years of the AID mission in Mauritania, there has never been a bilateral training project. "The lack of trained personnel is enormous," says John Hope, general development officer.

But that, too, will change. The five-year, \$7 million Human Resources Development Project, to begin soon, will put 50 people in long-term training and give 400 people short-term training "in disciplines that will help Mauritania achieve the goal of food security," Hope says.

"But we have to look after the physical well-being of the people, too," Miller points out. A high morbidity rate, low life-expectancy (43 years) and an infant mortality rate of 170 per 1,000 tell a story of malnutrition, diarrheal disease, malaria, measles, tuberculosis and schistosomiasis.

The five-year, \$5 million Rural Health Services Project, which began in 1983, concentrates three-quarters of its funds on an immunization campaign directed at 10 of the country's 12 regions plus the federal district of Nouakchott.

Children, up to five years of age, are
(continued on page 10)



Food for Peace Officer Richard Hough (in cap) and mission foreign national staffer Ahmed Salem Ould Mohamed visit a Food for Peace distribution warehouse in north central Mauritania. After commodities arrive from Dakar's harbor, private trucking companies haul them over Mauritania's difficult terrain to various distribution points. From there, donkey carts usually take the commodities to market.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Mauritania: A Land Gripped by Change

being vaccinated at government-run maternal and child health clinics (PMIs). Mobile units penetrate remote areas. Children found to be malnourished when they are brought to the PMIs are nutritionally rehabilitated with food provided under the P.L. 480 program.

Project funds supply needles and syringes, and have financed two walk-in freezers housed in Nouakchott for vaccine storage. The project also trains government health staff in vaccination techniques, according to Betsy Brown, an IDI in the Health Office.

The mobile units soon will have new, AID-funded, four-wheel-drive vehicles fully equipped with the latest technology to keep the vaccine cold chain. "As Mauritania continues to urbanize, the mobile units probably will be phased out," Brown says.

In training mobile unit staff, the project will attempt to diversify their skills and essentially build a health extension system. Among these new skills will be oral rehydration therapy and first aid.

Recently, health professionals heading the mobile units have begun to supervise village health workers and traditional birth attendants. Some of these paraprofessionals have been retrained or trained under the project.

As dams go up on the Senegal River, and development of the river valley progresses, vector-borne diseases, such as malaria, schistosomiasis and onchocerciasis are likely to increase. In anticipation of this, the mission plans to add a four-year, \$2.5 million component to the health project to train health personnel in disease monitoring and basic epidemiology. These people will staff an ongoing



Under contract, a post spouse, Linda McCluskey (left), supervised acquisition and installation of the mission's new data processing center. Also pictured, from right, are Mirrella Mars and Isabelita Sitchon. Mission staff discussing development of Mauritania's river basin are from left, IDI Chris Brown; Gabar Diop, translator; and Program Officer Campbell McCluskey. Project agreements must be prepared in both English and French. The mission relies on Diop, who is Senegalese, to prepare these bilingual documents.

surveillance program of disease patterns in the river valley and attempt to control the spread of these water-related diseases.

The drought has contributed to increased malnutrition and vitamin deficiencies among children. A recent AID-Ministry of Health study in three of the hardest-hit regions indicates that an average of 12% of the children suffer from acute malnutrition. These same studies turned up scurvy, Vitamin A deficiency and severe anemia.

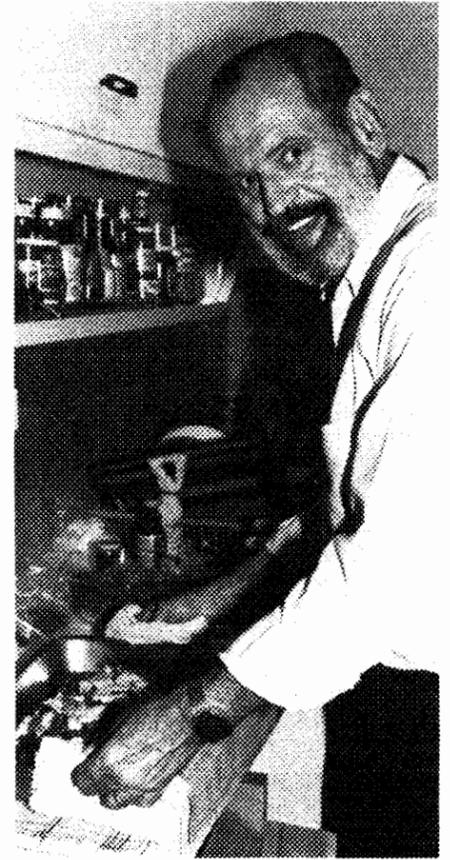
"In terms of U.S. resources devoted to this country right now, relief is the major thrust," Miller says. The fuel that powers the mission's relief activities is P.L. 480, Title II. In dollar terms, including all transportation costs, the P.L. 480 program in Mauritania, at \$24.1 million, is nearly 10 times the size of the mission's current development assistance budget of \$2.5 million.

The food aid program can be viewed in basically three parts, according to Richard Hough, the mission's Food for Peace officer. They are the emergency

program (\$14 million), Section 206 (\$6.1 million) and the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) food and nutrition centers (\$4 million).

In any emergency, food and medicine are among the greatest needs. Dried milk, wheat and butter oil will help meet the food and nutrition needs of the hungry. These commodities are being distributed by the Mauritanian government's Food Security Commission (CSA).

"But we also wanted to help the government cope with the increased incidence of disease brought on by the drought," Hough says. Under the emergency program, the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance shipped \$200,000 worth of antibiotics, oral rehydration salts, vitamins and eye ointments to Nouakchott. Under the supervision of contract Health Officer Karen Woodbury, mission staff sorted and relabeled the medicines in French. The supplies were then air-freighted to the country's regional capitals where they were met by mission and Ministry of Health staff. They distributed the



The mission's human resources development officer, John Hope, is also one of the American community's most avid fishermen and a creative seafood cook. His recipes appear regularly in the community's newsletter, *Camel Lot*.

medicine, together with guidelines for its use, to dispensaries, PMIs and rural medical posts.

Local currencies equivalent to \$1.5 million generated from 1981 grain sales are included in the emergency program. This money will fund an effort to look for water, drill wells and install pumps in the severely drought-stricken north.

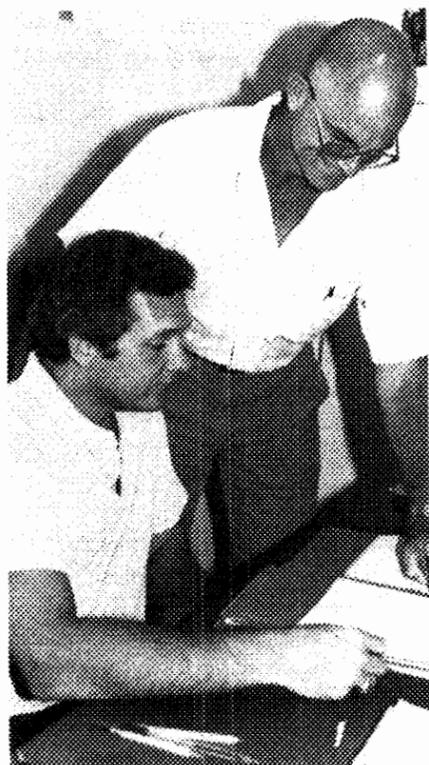
The Food for Peace Program also supplies the 33 CRS food and nutrition centers throughout the country. This private and voluntary organization's program provides food and education to 65,000 children and mothers, complementing the mission's efforts in health.

Monthly, mothers bring their children under age five to these centers for growth monitoring and a food ration which consists of a kilo of oil, two kilos of dried milk and four kilos of sorghum. In order to collect the oil ration, however, the mother must show her child's immunization record. If vaccinations are not up-to-date, she is referred next door to a PMI so that the child may be vaccinated.

Each visit, a mother pays 20 *ouguiyas* (\$1 equals 63 *ouguiyas*). This money funds staffing of the centers by local volunteers who are given a monthly stipend for their services. The volunteers weigh the children, chart their progress on individual growth records and offer the mothers advice.

When a child is found to be severely malnourished, he is placed in a special Ministry of Health feeding program which is supplied by CRS. There, he is fed twice daily for a month, and his mother is given special nutrition education.

Perhaps the most interesting element of the Food for Peace Program in Mauritania is Section 206. Goldman projects that over three years Section 206 grain sales will generate the equivalent of \$10.7 million which will



Mission Controller Wayne Butler (left) and Management Officer Max Walton consult on an outgoing cable.



Students at the International School in Nouakchott benefit from individual attention. Teacher Balquis Khan (left), answers Rochelle Baker's questions on her math lesson. Rochelle's mother, Felicia, is AID Director Don Brown's secretary.



On a trip to the field, Ahmed Salem Ould Mohamed, one of the mission's Mauritanian employees, takes a lunch break in one of the country's few remaining oases.

be used for developmental purposes. Among these are improvements in grain warehouse facilities for CSA and a planned bulk grain handling facility at Nouakchott's harbor, which at present is unable to process receipt of bulk grain food aid shipments. All P.L. 480 commodities destined for Mauritania must arrive in Dakar, Senegal. There, they are loaded in bags and transported overland to the border town of Rosso in southwestern Mauritania. "A bulk-handling facility at Nouakchott would save a lot of money," Goldman says. Private trucking companies transport most of the grain to Nouakchott's 16 warehouses from which it is further distributed all over the country. Some of the grain is distributed or stored in Rosso. To follow this flow, the mission has three P.L. 480 monitors. The government's record system leaves a paper trail enabling the monitors to track the commodities from the truck that transported them to the merchant selling them in the marketplace.

So far, approximately \$1.5 million of the \$15 million project to improve rural roads in Mauritania's river valley has come from proceeds of Section 206 grain sales. The project will build 279 kilometers of all-weather roads which will link the middle and upper river valley to Nouakchott and the Senegalese border. Farmers will be able to transport their crops to market and gain new access to fertilizer and other agricultural supplies. Section 206 also has supported the Mauritanian government's reform of grain pricing policies. As a result of the mission's negotiations with the government, the sales price of food aid cereals is closer to the world market price. The government also has agreed to yearly price increases through 1987, when these cereals are slated to reach the world market price.

About a year ago, when the mission started focusing more closely on

project implementation, it terminated three projects which were either poorly designed or overly ambitious, Goldman says. The combined value of the terminated projects was \$20 million. At the same time, U.S. direct-hire slots at the mission were reduced from 19 to 12. In addition, the mission relies on eight U.S. contractors for technical assistance.

Another important part of the mission staff are its Mauritanian employees. "We consider them indispensable to effective functioning of the mission in ways that go beyond job descriptions," Miller says. "Since we are operating in a culture which, at the outset, is difficult for a foreigner to comprehend, our Mauritanian employees offer an insight which helps us do our job right."

The country became independent of France in 1960. Although French is the official language, 80% of the people are Maures, descendants of Berbers and Arabs, who speak Hassaniya Arabic. "Mauritanians who can deal in Hassaniya can get things accomplished that we couldn't," Miller continues, pointing out that this becomes especially important in field operations.

All but one of the mission spouses have paying jobs. Vivian Lacerte, whose contractor husband, Paul, is the supply management officer, prefers to work at home. Her garden seems to be the most ambitious of all home gardens. Food is expensive in Nouakchott and a head of lettuce can cost as much as \$5. So most mission families have their own vegetable gardens. The Lacerte home is virtually surrounded by vegetables, which Vivian shields from the Saharan sun with yards of cheesecloth.

Program Officer Campbell McCluskey's wife, Linda, is responsible for the mission's new data processing center. Under a contract, Linda supervised acquisition and installation of three IBM personal computers and two Kaypro microcomputers. She also trained staff in the use of the equipment which is used in preparing many documents, notably cables, the Country Development Strategy Statement and the Annual Budget Submission.

Linda is also president of the American International School's board

of directors. Marilyn Walton, whose husband, Max, is the mission management officer, is the principal. Forty-five students, representing a broad range of nationalities, take advantage of what parents consider high-quality education offered from pre-school through eighth grade.

Other working spouses include Heather Goldman, who is the mission's nutrition adviser, and Jill Gulliksen, who works for CRS. Her husband is Richard Hough. They met in Nouakchott soon after her arrival in November 1982 and they were married a year later.

Nouakchott means "place of the winds" and this takes on special significance on days that those winds blast from the Sahara's interior, carrying dust and heat toward the ocean. In spite of the dust, most mission families have good things to say about living in this small, but rapidly growing, capital. "It's a dusty place, but it's dry dust," says Campbell McCluskey, adding that there are perfectly dustless days. In fact, Wayne Butler, who at 32 is the Agency's youngest controller, calls the weather on those dustless days, "absolutely beautiful." Evenings usually are pleasantly cool.

However hard it may be to keep a dust-free house, domestic help is plentiful, and AID families seem happy with their houses, which, since 1983, are equipped with generators. Because the city's power system is inadequate, certain sectors of the city are cut off from electricity for hours at a time. The AID home generators are large enough to support air-conditioning, which is especially important on dusty days when houses must be kept closed.

The beach is about four miles from the city and offers stretches of unspoiled, uninterrupted solitude. "Here is a beach that you can walk on at any hour of the day or night without fear," says Campbell McCluskey. In fact, the capital city is reported to be almost crime-free.

Nouakchott offers some of the best surf-fishing in the world. Between John Hope and Chris Brown, two of the mission's most avid fishermen, most everyone has enough fish to eat. Or, they can meet the fishing boats at the docks and make their own selections from the day's catch.

If Hope and Brown are the mission fishermen, Max Walton and Richard Goldman are its tennis pros. In fact, Walton teaches tennis at the American International School after he finishes work at 3:30 p.m. The mission work-day begins at 7:30 a.m., and the work week runs from Sunday through Thursday.

A videotape club thrives in the U.S. community. The American Recreation Center also offers movies and one of the best views of the capital from its roof terrace.

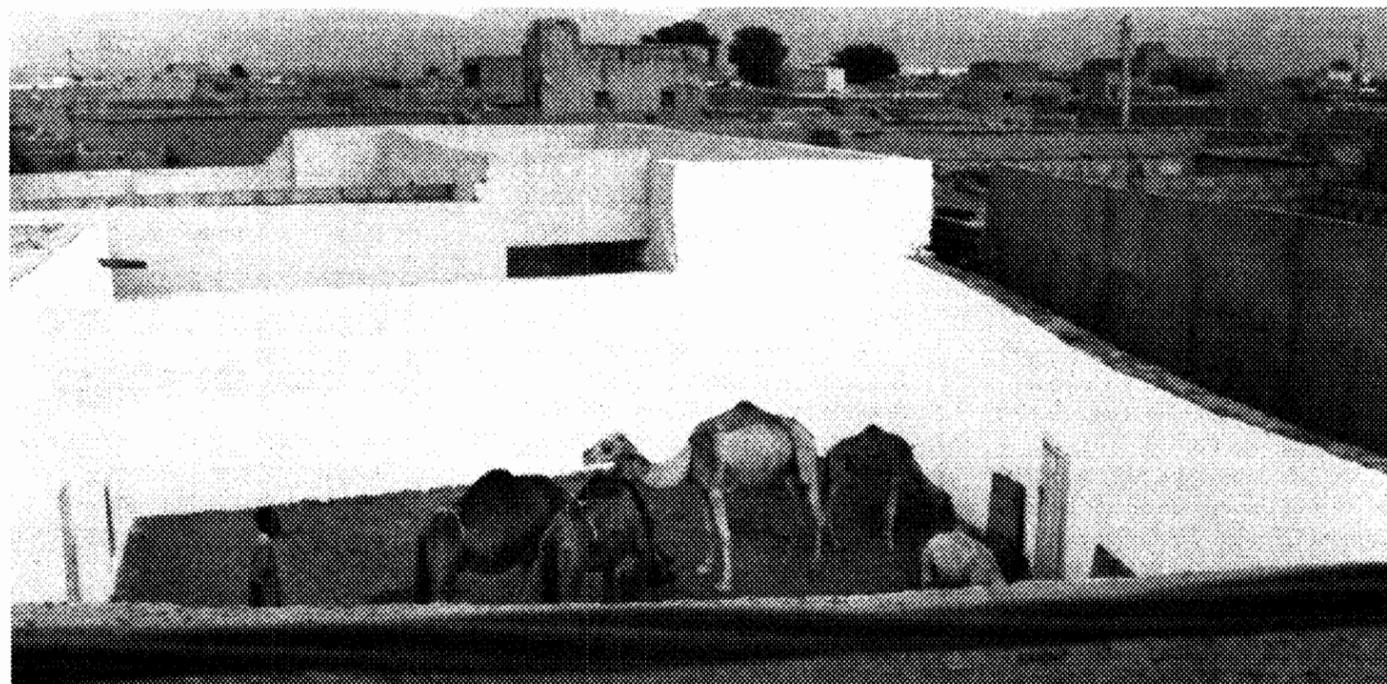
For long weekends, Dakar and Las Palmas in the Canary Islands are short plane rides away. But Mauritania, too, offers interesting cities. Chinquetti, in the west-central part of the country, is an historic religious site dating to the area's early civilization. Oualata, near the Malian border, was once a stopover for caravans trading gold, slaves and ivory from the south, and salt, copper and cloth from Timbuktu and farther north.

IDI's Betsy and Chris Brown, the mission's only tandem couple, agree that Mauritania is "an exotic place—more like a Middle Eastern country than an African country—where the 14th Century mixes with the present."

For those who have the good fortune to be a guest in a Mauritanian home, the exotic cuisine will be laid literally at their feet. Tekber Mint Sidha, a secretary in the Office of Human Resources, offers her guests sumptuous fare. The culinary procession begins with fresh dates. Guests then eat their way through platters heaped with camel meat, lamb and couscous. If the occasion is special, lamb stuffed with couscous and roasted whole on a spit is served. Afterwards, guests recline on mattresses around the room's periphery to sip tea, a minty series of three cups—each more sugared than the last.

The Mauritanian national anthem celebrates the country's freedom from France by likening it to sun-up and an awakening. This is appropriate, for Mauritania is indeed in the early morning hours of the development process. The entire day lies ahead of this nation of 1.7 million people and the AID mission in Nouakchott.

Stough is editor of Front Lines.



One of the signs that Mauritania is changing are herds of camels corralled at night behind homes in the city. "Home" used to be the nation's once grassy savannas. But drought and desertification are forcing Mauritania's nomads to abandon a lifestyle that is centuries old.

RETIRING

Quincy Beabow, Gambia, agricultural development officer, after 18 years
Dorothy Bowman, Uganda, management officer, after 18 years
Joan Knobloch, PPC/CDIE, secretary typist, after 9 years
David Levintow, COMP/FS, assistant mission director, after 23 years
Garry O'Brien, Liberia, deputy controller, after 18 years
Raymond Sangiovanni, Jamaica, general development officer, after 18 years
Leon Towell, M/FM, budget technician, after 15 years
Pauline Wright, M/PM/ERS, assistant personnel officer, after 26 years
Number of years are AID service only.

LEAVING

Anne Allen, S&T/POP
Anne Baker, NE/ME
Denise Banks, M/SER/MO
Sharon Berry, XA/PA
Joanne Bielawski, BIFAD
Boyd Carano, GC
Vera Connolly, XA/IASP

**WHERE?
IN THE WORLD
ARE AID EMPLOYEES**

Deloris Contee, COMP/CS
Iris Holt, LEG/OD
Linda Heuhauser, COMP/FS
Moses Oliver, M/PM/PO
Diane Rice, Philippines
Elizabeth Robertson, Yemen
Meg Roggensack, GC
Allean Ross, LAC/DR/RD
Bettye Steve, M/SER/CM
Kassis Urda, GC
Marian White, LAC/DR/PS
Yolanda White, Panama
James Williams, COMP/YOC

MOVING UP

Jane Anglin, SAA/S&T, secretary typist

Barbara Burriss, M/PM/PDE, program analyst
Kristy Fitzgerald, M/FM/PAFD/CMA, clerk typist
Lena Goodman, M/SER/MO/CRM, management analyst
Angela Horton, ASIA/TR, clerk typist
Janet Ice, S&T/H, program operations assistant
Kathryn Kincannon, M/AAA/SER, administrative operations assistant
Blanche Layne, AFR/PMR/RCS, clerk typist
Wilbert Lewis, M/SER/IRM, supervisory computer specialist
Carole Neideffer, A/AID, confidential assistant

Frances Rogers, ES/CCS, administrative operations assistant
William Schaffler, M/SER/IRM, computer specialist
Birge Watkins, PRE/TF, trade development officer
Yvonne Williams, M/PM/TD/AST, employment development specialist

MOVING OUT

Daniel Erikson, legal adviser, GC/EPA, to regional legal advisor, Cameroon
Theodore La France, supply management officer, COMP/FS, to assistant supply management officer, M/SER/COM
James Leo, deputy executive officer, AFR/PMR/EMS, to assistant management officer, El Salvador
Beverly Nelson, secretary typist, NE/PD, to secretary stenographer, PPC/DS
Alan Silva, assistant project development officer, COMP/FS, to project development officer, Zimbabwe
Marcia Thall, executive assistant, Sierra Leone, to secretary, PRE/TF

Max Stough Leaves AID

Maxine Stough has resigned from her position as editor of *Front Lines* to accept a position as an editor at the International Monetary Fund.

Before joining AID in June 1981, Stough was director of publications and editor for the American Land Title Association. She also had worked as a news reporter and for *Business Week* magazine in Paris.

While editor, Stough redesigned *Front Lines*. Under her management, the Agency newspaper received various awards from the Society for Technical Communication (STC) and the International Association of Business Communicators. Her writing skills won her an Award of Excellence and a Meritorious Honor Award.

Dolores Weiss has been named as Stough's successor. Prior to her position as assistant editor, Weiss was an English-journalism teacher and a reporter for a daily newspaper in Florida.

McCabe Dies From Cancer

John R. McCabe, chief of the Sahel and West Africa Projects Division, Bureau for Africa, died June 19 of cancer. He was 60.

McCabe joined the Agency in 1966 as chief of the Private Sector Development Division. He became a supervisory financial analyst in 1970. Recently, McCabe received the Agency's Outstanding Career Achievement Award.

He is survived by two daughters and one son. Correspondence may be sent to his family at 701 Chalfonte Dr., Alexandria, VA 22305.

AID BRIEFS**Former Administrator Dies**

Fowler Hamilton, AID's first Administrator, died June 7 at his home in Greenwich, CN, after a short illness. He was 73.

Hamilton, who was a founding partner of the international law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen and Hamilton, directed the U.S. foreign aid program under President Kennedy. He was named Administrator of the new Agency for International Development in 1961 when the International Cooperation Agency and the Development Loan Fund were fused.

Under Hamilton's leadership, loans made up 65% of the Agency's disbursements and grants were reduced

to 35%—a complete shift from the former program. When Hamilton resigned in November 1962, he said, "The new Agency does twice the job of its predecessors with approximately the same money and staff."

In addition to his private law practice, Hamilton, a Rhodes scholar, had extensive experience in government. He was graduated from the University of Missouri and received degrees in jurisprudence and civil law from Oxford, England.

Hamilton was working on a volume of essays and philosophical treatises when he died. He is survived by his wife Helen, two sons and a daughter.

Votaw Family Starts Fund

The family and friends of former AID housing officer Albert Votaw are establishing a memorial fund to endow a scholarship at Deep Springs College. Albert Votaw was killed over a year ago in the bombing of the American Embassy in Beirut.

Deep Springs is a non-denominational, two-year college located on a ranch in eastern California. About 24 students are enrolled at Deep Springs, and all attend on full scholarship. They are expected to repay their tuition obligation through service, not money.

Votaw, who served 12 years in the Ivory Coast as director of AID's Regional Housing and Urban Development Office for West Africa, exemplified the college's goal of service. He volunteered to head the housing reconstruction program for

Lebanon.

Persons who want to contribute to the Albert N. Votaw Memorial Fund may contact Catherine Votaw at 412 South 26th St., Philadelphia, PA 19146.

Wilson's Give Scholarship

A memorial scholarship, established by Dwight and Norma Wilson in memory of their daughter, Michele, was presented at the Montgomery Blair High School May 31. Michele, 15, died Dec. 15 after being struck by a school bus on her way to school. Dwight Wilson is a program analyst in the African Bureau.

A panel selected Gina Brookings as the first recipient of the annual award.

Seeds Float in Space

Nine million tomato seeds now floating in space hold more than a passing interest for Bernie Pollack, a horticulturist with the Office of Agriculture, Bureau for Science and Technology. Pollack, who joined AID from Rutgers University, was the plant breeder who developed the tomato hybrid called Ramapo. It, along with several other tomato varieties developed at Rutgers, is among those seeds in space.

The space shuttle *Challenger* left 20 bags (in a container) of tomato seeds in space last April. The seeds will be retrieved in 1985 and distributed for student experiments in schools across the United States. Some four million students will test the seeds for ability to germinate and to see if their visit in space caused any mutations.

Perry Feted, Gets Degree

Cynthia Shepard Perry, chief of the Education and Human Resources Division (EHR) in the Office of Technical Resources of the Africa Bureau, received an honorary doctor of laws degree from the University of Maryland at the Eastern Shore campus May 20. Perry, who gave the commencement address, called on graduates to develop their abilities to meet the challenges posed by an increasingly interdependent world.

In presenting the degree to Perry, university President John Toll cited her humanitarian efforts and contributions in the field of international education.

Perry earned a doctoral degree in international education from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.



Since the statement of mutual objectives between AID and the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) was signed in January, the joint AID/USIA

program has been responsible for significant achievements in relating AID's foreign assistance program to overseas audiences, according to Administrator McPherson.

At a meeting hosted by USIA's Director Charles Wick, McPherson told members of USIA's Public Sector Committees that the agreement has fostered cooperation and coordination between the staffs in Washington as well as in the field. He said he was particularly pleased that activities are promoting common aims which include:

- Seeing that the U.S. worldwide economic assistance program, food aid and disaster relief activities positively affect the growth and stability of the lesser developed nations.

“ We are trying to marry the marketing division (USIA) with the product development division (AID) to attain a cost-efficient and effective public diplomacy program. ”

- Improving recipient understanding and appreciation of our aid efforts.
- Ensuring that the image of the United States and the Administration's foreign policy is enhanced.

In answer to the question of why AID and USIA have the agreement, McPherson said, "We have a \$7.1 billion taxpayer investment in foreign assistance programming this year.

We are trying to marry the marketing division (USIA) and the product development division (AID) to attain a cost-efficient and effective public diplomacy program."

Referring to the program as a "positive example of good management and team effort," McPherson called attention to several specific accomplishments of the program such as the "media blitz" by USIA which is publicizing the Administration's African Economic Policy Initiative, the first AFNET satellite dialogue, proposals for placing USIA/AID liaison personnel within the Egypt and Sudan missions and the assignment of a USIA officer as a full-time public affairs adviser to the AID mission in El Salvador.

In Washington, the two agencies now have a computer-to-computer hook up to transmit important foreign assistance policy and program announcements. Also, through USIS/AID representation in Geneva, Brussels, Bonn, Copenhagen, Stockholm and Oslo, an exchange of *Horizons*, *Front Lines* and other selected materials on development has

been initiated with international development agencies in donor countries.

Gordon Murchie and Dennis Barrett, the USIA/AID liaison officers, agreed that the exchange is working well and pointed out other accomplishments, including:

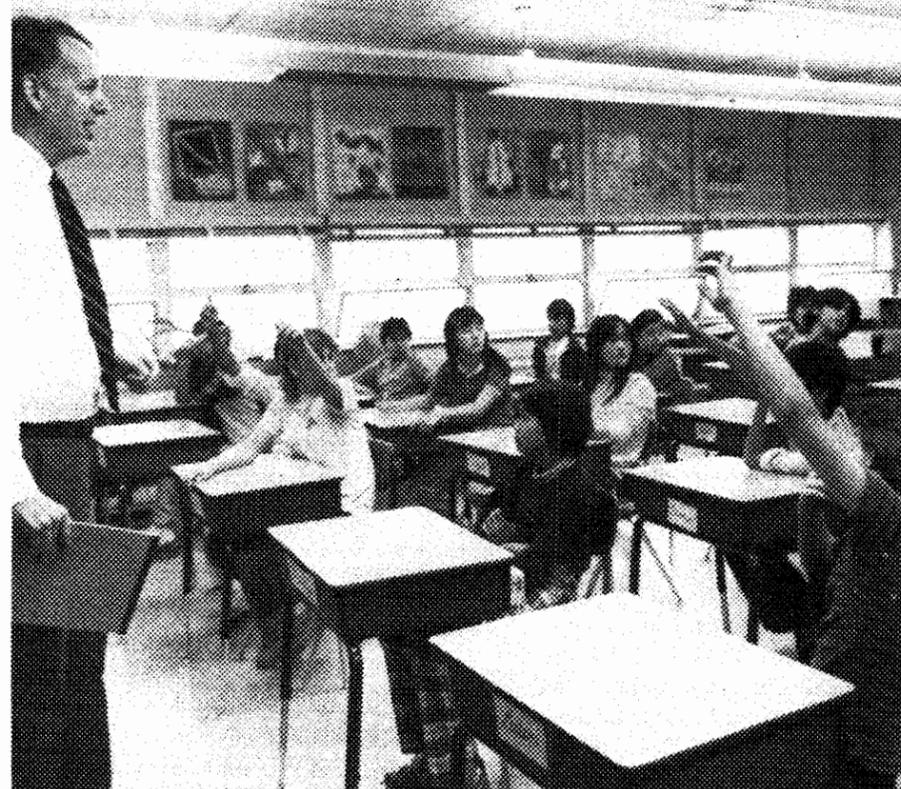
- A special USIS/USAID Rabat initiated article on the history of American aid to Morocco which was featured in *Focus*, a USIA French language publication produced in Paris. It has been widely distributed throughout Morocco and several other Francophone countries. A USIA cable to Rabat stated, "This type of cooperation benefits everybody involved and is a tribute to USIS personnel as well as those in AID Morocco."
- A USIA \$21,000 budget item allocated to cooperative programming in Egypt for a short videotape for in-country use, six short television

programs, and the translation into Arabic of four U.S. economic-developmental titles for presentation to key mission contacts.

- An AID Club du Sahel-funded writer who will cooperate with USIA's Africa Regional Services (ARS) office in Paris to write a series on AID projects in Upper Volta. ARS Paris, in turn, has sponsored a writer's contract for several articles to be written on AID projects in Kenya. The resulting stories will be available to both USIA and AID for broader media use.

- A joint publishing project at USIS/USAID Ouagadougou for a special pamphlet on in-country AID activities.

- Increased placement of country-originated picture and copy stories on AID projects in Cameroon by USIS Yaounde, including special coverage of AID's national cereals and extension



Hands fly up eagerly in a class led by the Asia Bureau's Assistant Administrator Charlie Greenleaf.

project.

- Improved media coverage of AID projects in Chad by USAID/USIS N'Djamena.
- A continuing cooperative public affairs emphasis on gaining greater public awareness and appreciation of U.S. assistance in USIS/USAID Sri Lanka.

Hands fly up eagerly in response to the question "What is the most populated country in the world?" The sixth grade class at Glencarlyn Elementary in Arlington was being treated to a lesson by the Asia Bureau's assistant administrator, Charlie Greenleaf.

Greenleaf volunteered his time and effort to support the Partnerships in Education Program initiated by President Reagan in October 1983. The Partnerships in Education Program requests that each Executive Department and Agency identify and establish a partnership with a school. The program is designed to encourage volunteers to help increase the quality of American education. Volunteer activities may include tutoring programs, field trips or tours of the State Department, and in-class presentations.

Of the 488 children at Glencarlyn Elementary, 70% are from Third World countries. The students were excited by Greenleaf's presentation, which included some of their native countries.

Said Greenleaf of the occasion, "I thoroughly enjoyed my visit. The students are bright and inquisitive, and anxious to learn more about the United States. I hope our program with the Glencarlyn School will be enthusiastically supported next year."

The rewards of voluntarism are numerous. To participate in Glencarlyn Elementary Partnerships in Education Program in the next academic year, contact Lee Penders, principal, at 703/671-9400.

—Kellan Quinlan

AID's Speaker's Bureau is currently seeking new speakers to respond to outside Agency requests. The bureau requires individuals whose first-hand experience will help an audience better understand how the AID program works. Employees who are interested in speaking should contact Kellan Quinlan at the Speaker's Bureau, telephone 632-4213, Room 5756.

During May the following persons represented AID:

- **General Julius Becton**, director of the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, addressed the Special Forces School at Fort Bragg on May 30. He spoke on "Aiding the LDCs: An International Dilemma."
- **Reginald Brown** from the Center for Strategic International Studies conducted a Congressional briefing for constituents of Congressman Thomas

SPEAKERS CIRCUIT

Downey (D-NY) on May 4. The briefing focused on the security aspects of foreign assistance.

- **Tom Casstevens** from the Administrator's Office represented AID at the Dartmouth Development Forum on May 9. The focus was on Central America.

- **Rick Endres**, while media relations officer, Bureau for External Affairs, spoke on foreign aid as an instrument for world peace to a group at Warwick High School in Lititz, PA on May 7.

- **William Feldman**, director of the Office of Forestry, Environment and Natural Resources (S&T), spoke at the Global

Crossroads Environment Forum here in Washington on May 17

- **Ed Hullander**, associate assistant administrator, Office of Policy Development and Program Review (PPC), addressed the Experiment in International Living School here in Washington on May 5. He also spoke to the Maxwell Graduate School (Syracuse University) on May 24 in Washington.
- **Helen Soos** spoke to the Business Women's Guild in Washington on May 12. Soos is the Sahel regional desk officer in the Office of Sahel and West Africa Affairs.

- **John Wilhelm** of the Administrator's Office addressed the Business Records Manufacturers Association on May 21. On May 30, he also explained to the Can Manufacturers Institute how the can industry benefits economically from foreign assistance.



"Strength Through Unity" was the theme of the Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week program, sponsored by AID and the Department of State May 7-12, in cooperation with the Asian and Pacific American Federal Employees Council (APAFEC).

"The strength of America lies in our free enterprise system and the spirit of our great nation grows out of the richness of our diverse cultural heritage and the hard work and convictions of all our citizens," said Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris in his opening remarks.

The Filipino American Cultural Arts Society dance troupe performed at the opening ceremonies. The non-profit

organization was formed to develop an awareness of the Filipino culture and heritage among young Americans of Filipino ancestry. They performed a variety of dances such as the Pandango sa Ilaw, a favorite from the rural barrios, and the popular Tinikling.

On May 11, Maj. Ellison Onizuka, the first Asian-American astronaut, spoke on "25 Years and More in Space: A Backward Look at History . . . A Forward Glance into Time." At a luncheon meeting, several AID and State employees had the opportunity to talk with Onizuka. He told them that among the 35 recently selected astronauts are two Asian-American males, two black males and five white women.

Other featured activities included panel discussions and films showing life in Japan and India. In addition, the State Department cafeteria featured Asian-American food.

Leticia Peoples has joined the Office of Equal Opportunity as an equal employment opportunity officer. She will be in charge of all aspects of the discrimination complaint process.

Peoples comes to AID from the Department of Interior, Division of General Law, Office of Solicitor, where she served as a paralegal specialist. Her experience includes a concentration in complaint processing and federal sector employment discrimination.

Gladys S. Fry, AID's Hispanic employment program manager, represented the Agency at the 12th annual National Training Conference and Convention of National Image, Inc., an organization concerned with employment for Hispanic Americans, especially in the federal sector. The conference, whose theme was "Progress Through Unity and Oppor-

tunity," was held in Albuquerque, NM, May 21-27.

The agenda included seminars, workshops and press conferences addressing concerns of Hispanics in education and employment, as well as their participation in the economic and political systems of the United States. Also included were career orientation workshops for approximately 500 high school and college students.

Also addressing the conference were government leaders from local, state and national levels, such as New Mexico Gov. Toney Anaya and Commissioner of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Tony Gallegos, as well as Democratic presidential candidates. Representatives from the corporate and federal sectors also exhibited their services.

—Voncile Willingham



An AID-sponsored conference which concentrated on improved use of the Asia Bureau Primary Health Care (PHC) strategy was held in Singapore, May 21-25. It was the third in a series of conferences for population, health and nutrition (PHN) officers.

Attending the conference were AID staff from the field, the bureaus for Asia and Science and Technology, and professionals from the PHN field.

The purposes of the meeting were:

- To upgrade the knowledge of PHN officers in key areas of AID involvement, including family planning, oral rehydration therapy, immunization, nutrition, malaria, water supply and sanitation.

- To develop a course of action to improve results in these areas.
- To discuss a number of internal administrative and personnel issues of particular concern to the field staff.

Conferees decided that to improve performance of the PHC strategy,

obstacles to a successful completion of the four main elements must be identified. The obstacles which were most serious or easy to change, and the areas which were appropriate for AID, host country or donor assistance to handle also had to be determined.

In the keynote speech, Eugene Staples, deputy assistant administrator for the Asia Bureau, noted that increased responsibility for programming HPN funds will reside with the missions. He said that he recognizes that, given the limitations of staff and grant funds, HPN officers will need to exercise a high degree of creativity in designing projects.

A panel discussion on ORT was moderated by William Goldman, health officer in the Office of Technical Resources. The panel, which included Dr. Jon Rohde of Pritech and Jerry Russell of John Snow, Inc., summarized the technical issues concerning ORT, including the affects on child nutrition and growth. They also described the successful Egyptian ORT program and led working group discussions on restrictions to expanding ORT.

William Johnson of the AID mission

in Sri Lanka moderated the session on family planning which discussed social marketing of contraceptives in Bangladesh and India. James Shelton, Office of Population, Bureau for Science and Technology, spoke on recent developments in contraceptive technology. Presenting findings of a field experiment in Bangladesh, James Phillips of the Population Council discussed methods of improving the performance of the public sector family planning program.

The panel on nutrition, moderated by David Calder of AID's mission in Indonesia, included Rohde, Mary Ann Anderson of the AID mission in India, and Joy Riggs-Perla and Rosendo Capul, both from the AID mission in the Philippines. The group discussed agricultural policy and health services as they relate to nutrition, including targeting of P.L. 480 Title II food through maternal child health/primary health care delivery systems.

In a panel on immunization, Stanley Foster of the Centers for Disease Control and Calder addressed technical issues, with emphasis on neonatal tetanus and measles. They explained

that in these two areas there is great potential for reducing mortality among infants and young children.

The sessions on malaria and water supply and sanitation re-examined AID's role and considered whether the present Asia Bureau strategy in these areas should be refined.

Reports also were produced by the working groups. These documents are designed to guide the efforts of the missions and the bureau to improve performance in carrying out the selective PHC strategy. The documents will provide a listing of actions to be taken by individual missions, S&T and/or other bureaus to carry out the plan, including resources required.

In closing remarks to the conferees, David Oot, chief of the Population, Health and Nutrition Division, Office of Technical Resources, stated that the conference report will help make the selective PHC strategy effective and will serve as an action plan for the missions and the bureau.

To obtain a copy of the conference report, contact David Oot, Room 3321A NS, telephone 632-2928.

—Mary Beth Allen



Recently, an increasing number of AID direct-hire and contract employees have been victims of violence or have been threatened while serving overseas. The most tragic of all incidents was the April 1983 Beirut bombing. However, more recent incidents, including kidnapping, assault, threat of assassination, residential crime and attempted coups, suggest that the level of violence cannot be expected to moderate in the near future.

The steady increase in common crime, accompanied by continued terrorism, has prompted the Office of Inspector General's Office of Security (IG/SEC) to develop new relationships with its State Department counterparts

and to create new ways of dealing with these threats.

Consequently, IG/SEC's focus has shifted from the traditional enforcer of regulations to the role of provider of security services which are intended to help AID employees deal more effectively with security-related emergencies. The overseas security support services include designing comprehensive systems to protect AID missions, providing technical advice and logistical support for AID residential security efforts and providing employees with an effective means of radio emergency communications.

Because of IG/SEC's relatively small size, it is not possible to station security officers overseas. There is, however, a long-standing agreement between the Department of State's Office of Security (SY) and IG/SEC. Under this agreement, SY's regional

and engineering security officers provide day-to-day security services to AID missions.

This arrangement requires close coordination between IG/SEC's officers in Washington and SY's personnel abroad and in Washington. In Washington, IG/SEC routinely coordinates with SY's Office of Foreign Operations, the Threat Analysis Group, the Technical Services Division and the Physical Security Division. In addition, IG/SEC deals directly with the regional and engineering officers via cable and during their temporary duty travel.

In spite of IG/SEC's close relationship with its Department of State counterparts, it has become clear that as programs and services expand, there is a greater need for direct coordination with individual AID missions. For

this reason, the Unit Security Officer (USO) program has resumed. Under this program, a USO is designated at each AID mission. Usually the management or executive officer, the USO is responsible for coordinating all security-related activities with IG/SEC and State Department security officers.

IG/SEC is still responsible for the background investigations program, security clearances, identification cards, the dreaded—but necessary—security violation program and domestic support in Washington.

Another who must play an integral role in the overall security program for AID is the individual employee. In future articles, we will expand upon the various aspects of the IG/SEC security services program and the critical role of employees.

—Richard Howard

FROM WID



A regional handbook series, now being printed by the Bureau of Census, provides a variety of gender-specific data which will be useful to people who design and carry out women-in-development projects. The first of the four handbooks, *Women of the World: Latin America and the Caribbean*, presents important statistics on women in 21 AID recipient countries in the region. The handbook series is part of a major five-year project by the Bureau of Census for PPC's Office of Women in Development (PPC/WID).

“
School enrollment and literacy are on the increase among Latin American women.
”

Beginning with a population overview, the handbook presents summary analyses on: women's literacy and education, economic activity, marital status, fertility and mortality. Each topic is discussed in terms of both the availability of data and the situation of

women as revealed by the statistics. Whenever available, information on each of the variables is presented not only by sex, but by age and rural/urban residence.

These handbooks do not simply present the information on women's status in tables, charts and text, but they offer a critique on the concepts, availability, and the quality of data assembled on each variable—the positive attributes, as well as the major deficiencies.

Some of the handbook's points that may be of interest to development planners:

- In Latin America, more women than men migrate to the cities. The result: increased proportions of women in urban areas, and of men in rural areas.
- School enrollment and literacy are on the increase among Latin American women.
- Women's work in Latin America and the Caribbean is characterized by two parallel processes: an increasing movement of women into paid employment in the formal sector and continued high rates of participation outside the formal labor market.

Handbooks remaining to be published under the project will cover sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Oceania, the Near East and North Africa. They will be in circulation by the end of 1984. To obtain copies of the handbooks or further information on PPC/WID's National Statistics on Women Project, contact Earline Wilkinson, PPC/WID, Room 2937NS.

—Deborah R. Purcell



When Yemeni government officials saw an AID-funded presentation known as RAPID (Resources for the Awareness of Population

Impacts on Development), the result was more conscious planning and programming. RAPID depicts the adverse effects high population growth rates will have on Yemen's development future.

Now, Yemen's Central Planning Organization has asked AID to fund a similarly constructed presentation to spotlight women—an untapped resource with the potential of a significant impact on Yemen's economic growth and development. The presentation is expected to be in use within the next six months.

This planned simulation model will demonstrate to political leaders the current status of women and how they can contribute to Yemen's economic and social development, particularly in the production and distribution of goods and services.

The presentation also will discuss constraints to their full economic participation. It will explain ways of facilitating women's access to productive resources and social services which could improve their lives as well as enhance their contributions to society.

The following facts will be included:

- Women play a critical and, often,

dominant role in food production, storage, processing and distribution.

- Women are primarily responsible for providing their households with water. In countries where water is scarce or unevenly distributed, this role is a significant development concern.
- Where fuelwood is the major energy source, women are primarily responsible for gathering it.
- Women perform most household work essential to a family's survival.

Since the issue of women in development cuts across all sectors, the presentation will be broad-based, involving government officials in all areas of responsibility. It will attempt to stimulate debate aimed at finding ways of making government ministries more responsive to women's roles and requirements. For example, if women are to be prepared for the contribution that they can make to Yemen's development, they will have to have better access to credit, employment, training, education and other social services.

Although the presentation will be tailored to Yemen's public officials, its design, with appropriate modifications, is such that it can be used in other developing countries.

Other simulated presentations designed by the Future's Group have proven an effective means to communicate AID's priorities and concerns to the leaders of developing countries.

Funding is being provided by the Near East Bureau and the Office of Women in Development.

—Suzanne Majors

IN HOUSING



A recent housing finance seminar highlighted methods for channeling resources to housing for low-income families. Held in Goa,

India, the event was sponsored by AID's Office of Housing and Urban Programs and the Housing Development Finance Corp. of India (HDFC), which is the only private housing finance institution in India. Chaired by Peter Kimm, deputy assistant administrator of the Bureau for Private Enterprise, and H.T. Parekh, HDFC chairman, the seminar featured top executives from major private and public housing finance institutions in Asia.

The opening session concentrated on the private sector role in financing housing for lower-income households. It noted unique problems such as illiteracy and irregular incomes, which often do not keep pace with inflation. Such problems, it was noted, must be overcome so that lenders can provide loans to low-income families. The high cost of conventional housing is another problem which must be remedied.

Following the discussion on problems, the session explored opportunities for profitably expanding mortgage and home improvement lending into the low-income housing market. Representatives from the Philippines,

Thailand and Indonesia focused on how to make resources available during the second session. Methods being used by these countries include government-guaranteed securities to provide advance mortgage purchase commitments to private lenders and tax-exempt interest paid on bonds and savings deposits in housing banks. Also explained was the use of a lottery system in Korea which provides 35% of the net revenue for financing housing.

The third session highlighted steps that European and American institutions have taken to expand the availability of loans for low-income housing. The vice president of the U.S. National Council of Savings Association presented a paper on the evolution of the housing finance system in the United States. He explained alternatives developed for thrift institutions following the housing finance crisis of the late 1970s. These included easing government regulation of investments and interest rates to compensate for high inflation. His discussion on the development of new mortgage instruments and types of accounts provoked a lively debate among Asian lenders, some of whom face similar problems.

Those attending included: the managing director of the Korean Housing Bank, president/director of P.T. Papan Sejahtera of Indonesia, chairman of the State Mortgage and Investment Bank of Sri Lanka, president of the National Home Mortgage Finance Corp. of the Philippines, the managing director of the Housing Development

Finance Corp. of Sri Lanka, the director and chief executive of the Malaysia Building Society, the vice president of the U.S. National Council of Savings Association and the president of the International Union of Building Societies and Savings Association.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the finance executives to exchange experiences on reaching an

income group that usually is excluded from formal housing finance systems and provided AID a dialogue with influential Asian officials. The executives expressed an interest in continuing this dialogue with AID and in maintaining the exchange of information with the other participants.

—Alexi Panehal



A recent housing finance seminar held in India explored ways to make low-income housing available.

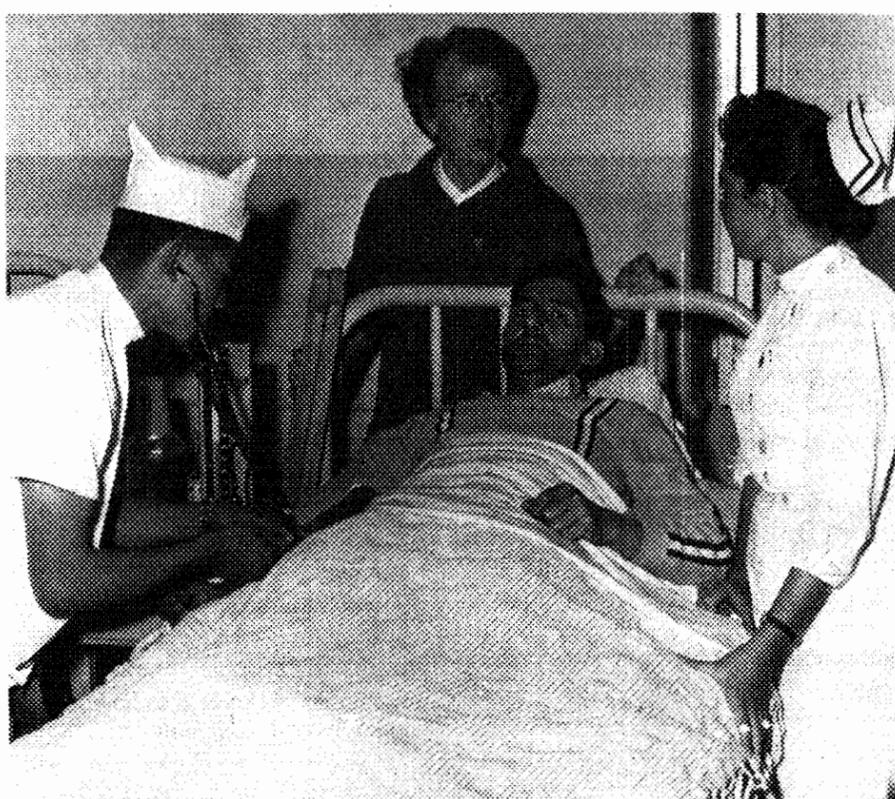


Keeping equipment functioning in health care institutions of seven Central American and Caribbean countries has become a problem.

In fact, an estimated 60% of the equipment does not work because the pool of maintenance technicians is inadequate. Experts calculate that 80% of maintenance and repair problems can be avoided by preventive maintenance and trouble-shooting techniques.

The Pan American Development Foundation (PADF), with assistance from an AID grant, is doing something about the problem. A three-year medical equipment repair and maintenance project will increase the number of qualified mid-level technicians who can repair and maintain medical equipment. Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador will benefit.

In addition to improving the skills of vocational school students, the project will focus on increasing incomes of private and public sector technicians



Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) with assistance from an AID grant is running a medical equipment repair and maintenance project to improve health care.

already engaged in general maintenance and electronics.

PADF has selected eight vocational

school instructors who will give a six-month skills upgrading course in Spanish. A PADF-hired biomedical

technology instructor will conduct the course in the United States and provide follow-up supervision to participants upon return to their respective countries. Fairfax Hospital in Fairfax, VA, has been selected as the training site for the course.

The project will provide:

- Skills and techniques necessary to teach repair and maintenance of medical equipment through classroom lecture and supervised hands-on instructions.
- Instruction in the use of hand tools, application and use of calibrating and test equipment.
- Assistance in developing curricula for in-country courses in specific categories of medical and diagnostic equipment.

Teaching materials, test equipment, simulators, reference manuals and visual aids will complement the curricula.

The project's long-term objectives are to generate income by improving skills of general and electrical repair technicians who can meet the demand for medical equipment and maintenance. Ultimately, this will improve the diagnosis and treatment of patients by reducing downtime of life-saving equipment.



The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD) recently sponsored a workshop at

Tennessee State University for the nine historically black land grant universities with AID strengthening grants. The workshop reviewed the process of evaluating non-matching strengthening grants.

Evaluation of four universities will begin late July with site visits. A university which passes the evaluation becomes eligible for a matching strengthening grant or a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which can be either single or joint with a more experienced institution.

Benjamin Payton, president of Tuskegee Institute and BIFAD board member, opened the meeting by reminding the 25 participants of the important role that historically black colleges play in training manpower for many of the world's developing countries. He urged the institutions to gear up for even greater participation.

In another session, Fred Humphries, president of Tennessee State University and a member of the Joint Committee on Agricultural Research and Development (JCARD), expressed his university's commitment to international programs and the changes which have occurred through strengthening grant funding.

Other speakers were Frederick E. Hutchinson, BIFAD executive director; Leonard Yaeger, deputy assistant administrator of AID's Bureau for Science and Technology (S&T); David Hansen of S&T's Research and University Relations Division; Handy Williamson of Tennessee State University, who chaired the consul-

tant panel to develop the evaluation instrument; and Jean Weidemann, chief of BIFAD's Institutional and Human Resources Division.

—Jean Weidemann

At its June 7 meeting, BIFAD reviewed progress in developing an improved orientation program for university staff. The program would familiarize staff with AID and their prospective host country before they arrive at post to work on AID projects. Agenda representatives joined in discussing next steps.

Glenn Crumb of Western Kentucky University reported on a study of the barriers to greater international involvement of the smaller schools included in the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). Board members cited increasing foreign language abilities and joining with larger institutions in AID projects as ways to increase and improve involvement of AASCU institutions in AID programs.

The board also discussed a "concept paper" for determining university eligibility for Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and implications for Title XII universities.

Nyle Brady, senior assistant administrator for science and technology, described recent developments and AID's plans in biotechnology.

North Carolina State University (NCSU) has helped develop the public agricultural research programs of Peru since 1955. At BIFAD's April meeting, Chairman E.T. York and Leonard Yaeger, deputy assistant administrator of the Bureau for Science and Technology, said that the long-term relationship has been the key to success of NCSU's current AID project in

agricultural research, education and extension. Because NCSU staff is known and respected in Peru, it took only a short time to get the project under way.

Morris Whitaker of Utah State University reported the findings of the AID team which evaluated the project earlier this year. One unexpected result was an integrated program of research, education and extension involving several donors. The value of the integrated program, when added to the \$15 million AID project, equals \$122 million.

Another result was the rapid progress made in improving crop varieties. Integration of the Peruvian

programs with those of the international research centers was a key to this success. The project also helped strengthen INIPA (the Peruvian counterpart organization).

In making the presentation for NCSU, Larry Apple and Art Coutu commended the Peruvian participation and commitment, as well as the support and cooperation rendered by the AID mission. The NCSU presentation is one of a series of presentations on Title XII projects and part of BIFAD's continuing effort to apply the lessons learned from ongoing programs to future activities.

—John C. Rothberg



Decision-makers from nine South and Southeast Asia nations attended a two-week orientation during May on the use of AID's Agroclimatic

Impact Assessment Program. Hosted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), 26 agricultural economists, statisticians and meteorologists participated in an intensive "hands-on" training session in Pattaya, Thailand.

Developed with assistance from NOAA and the University of Missouri over the past six and one-half years, AID's model program relates current rainfall data acquired from traditional and satellite sources to historical evidence of crop yield. Researched episodic data, such as floods and economic crises, that may cause anomalous occurrences have been built into computer models which have

been developed for over 70 countries. The models are easily modified to vary the importance of rainfall, or lack of it, during the growing cycle. For instance, drought at the time of flowering is usually more destructive than at harvest.

Normally, several "agroclimatic regions" or macro-zones, based on dominant climatic and crop patterns, will be defined in a model for a specific country. The model can predict the relative impact of cumulative rainfall and episodic events on a selected crop about 60-90 days before harvest. This, in turn, can provide a three-to-six-month lead time in the case of drought-induced food shortages. For Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance purposes, that lead time can mean the difference between orderly restructuring of food distribution systems or million-dollar airlifts to starving people. Knowing the damage potential of current weather patterns also can enable a farmer to vary his cropping pattern to reduce losses.

—Fred Cole



An AID-supported urban community improvement program in secondary cities is providing credit and technical assistance to the very poorest of Kenya's self-employed. Funded by a \$275,000 grant from the AID mission in Nairobi, the program is being carried out by the private and voluntary organization (PVO) National Christian Council of Kenya (NCKK).

One of the program's sites is Nakuru, a medium-size city which is a two-and-a-half-hour drive north of Nairobi. According to Gabriel Kamau, director of the Nakuru program, 78 loans have been made since 1981. The value of most of these loans ranges from \$35 to \$400.

For example, a loan of \$375 enabled a furniture manufacturer to purchase enough supplies to produce sufficient quantity to show a good profit, as well as employ two other furniture makers and a part-time evening bookkeeper. He has repaid his loan and is considering requesting another to further expand his business.

A \$150 loan to a tailor enabled him to purchase a treadle sewing machine, rent a space for his workshop and store and hire an assistant. He has met all of his payment deadlines.

Before receiving a loan, these largely illiterate entrepreneurs are required to attend a seminar in which they learn basic management and bookkeeping skills. While 65% of the borrowers have repaid their loans on time, some are repaying more slowly, as they are able.

Director Kamau visits his clients frequently and is involved socially with the community. Kamau reports that in addition to creating 40 new jobs in Nakuru, he has noticed that the health and nutrition of the families involved have improved and that family social problems have decreased.

The NCKK program is an example of what PVOs are accomplishing under the AID mission's Small-Scale Enterprise Project. This project aims at establishing and expanding private enterprise in Kenya. These activities are especially important in view of the fact that Kenyan commercial banks do not directly reach and assist the smallest of the country's entrepreneurs.

—Michelle Easton



July 10 marked the 30th anniversary of the Food for Peace Program and kicked off a variety of commemorative activities recognizing the occasion. Events involving everyone from farmers to shippers, to recipients, students and policy-makers are being planned by AID, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, private voluntary organizations and private enterprises.

A consortium of companies and trade associations hosted a dinner in Washington July 10 to recognize the efforts of the P.L. 480 program. The 1,200 guests included ambassadors from recipient countries, members of Congress and former officials of the Food for Peace program.

AID's Bureau for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance (FVA) is coordinating the Agency's participation in the commemoration. The focus of the Agency's activities will be educating the public on the benefits and issues of food aid.

Involvement of AID missions is critical to the success of this year-long

program. Recently AID/W cabled an outline of anniversary activities to missions, asking for comment. Missions have cabled back, supplying Food for Peace success stories from their countries and comments from host governments. In addition, some missions plan commemorative events in conjunction with USIA posts.

Secretary General Ejaz Ahmad Naik of Pakistan said, "I am pleased to learn that in July this year the Food for Peace Program will be marking its 30th anniversary. Pakistan has been one of the major beneficiaries of U.S. food aid under P.L. 480. . . . Pakistan can be cited as a success story as a recipient of food aid under P.L. 480 in the sense that the earlier shortages experienced by the country were tackled by imports of wheat from United States under food aid programs. . . . Since then, Pakistan has been not only self-sufficient in food grains but in a position to export wheat to other countries. On this occasion I would like to convey our deep appreciation and gratitude to the government of the United States for the generous food aid provided to Pakistan over the past three decades."

—Lori Forman



Infants and children in less developed countries (LDCs) are frequent victims of acute diarrheal diseases. In 1980, the incidence of diarrheal disease in children under five years of age in developing nations was estimated at 75 million to 1 billion cases, with 4.6 million deaths. Viruses, bacteria, and parasites can all cause diarrhea.

Vibrio cholera, a bacterium, is perhaps the best known lethal diarrheal agent, and accounts for the most fatalities. It releases cholera toxin which makes cells lining the intestine secrete huge quantities of body fluids and salts. Unless these are replaced, the victim dies. But simply drinking water and salt alone won't do the trick. Recently, it was found that simple sugars can greatly increase the ability of the body to use ingested fluids and salts. This is the scientific basis of oral rehydration therapy (ORT), an inexpensive, effective treatment which can save millions of infants a year.

Among the common bacteria that inhabit the alimentary canal, *Escherichia coli* is a frequent cause of intestinal disease (gastroenteritis). *E. coli* can cause diarrhea several different ways. Some strains stick to the surface of the small intestine and produce toxins, called heat-labile enterotoxin. Other strains and shigellae invade and damage epithelial cells in the large intestine. A third group of strains, called enteropathogenic *E. Coli* (EPEC), are known to cause epidemic and endemic diarrheal disease in LDC infants; but neither produce heat labile enterotoxins nor invade intestinal cells.

Under a grant from AID's Office of the Science Advisor (SCI), Dr. Allison

O'Brien and workers at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) have been studying how such EPEC bacteria cause infantile diarrhea. They found that many EPEC isolates make a toxin that is indistinguishable from the toxin of *Shigella* (Shiga toxin). This potent toxin causes fluid secretion in animal studies and may be responsible for the diarrhea seen in LDC children and infants infected with EPEC strains. The investigators observe that *E. coli* strains causing bloody diarrhea (hemorrhagic colitis) also make high levels of Shiga-like toxin.

Very recent studies show that some other bacterial agents of diarrhea, for example, cholera, also make a Shiga-like toxin. In fact, genetically engineered cholera bacteria, in which the DNA coding for cholera toxin has been removed, still produce diarrhea (albeit much milder diarrhea) in human volunteers. Dr. O'Brien is currently collaborating with researchers

in Thailand, Brazil and Bangladesh to study the variety, nature and range of *E. Coli* producing Shiga-like toxins and diarrhea.

The mechanisms of viral diarrhea are being studied by other SCI grantees. For example, Dr. Kathryn Holmes, also of USUHS, believes that viral subunits or products may also act like toxins. Such viral agents would "recognize" and attach themselves to specific molecular patterns on the surface of the cells lining the intestines. The process is similar to the way a key "recognizes" and just fits the specific configuration of a lock. If the rotaviruses and corona viruses she is investigating do behave this way, a search for substances that inhibit this process (by plugging the key or the lock) could lead to a new approach to therapy.

Another SCI grantee, Dr. Daw Tin Aye of the Burmese Department of Medical Research is interested in the whole range of diarrhea-causing

organisms actually encountered in LDC practice such as EPEC, shigella, cholera and rotaviruses. Although diarrhea is a major cause of infant mortality in Burma, the agents responsible are difficult to identify.

In collaboration with investigators at Johns Hopkins University and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, the Burmese investigators will use a wide variety of recently developed techniques including ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay), genetic probes and plasmid analysis to accurately differentiate various strains of diarrheal pathogens and study their transmission under LDC conditions. Particular attention will be paid to *E. Coli*.

EPEC outbreaks have all but disappeared in the United States, but remain a particular problem in LDCs. Rapid, accurate identification is also an essential first step in improved clinical treatment.

—Irvin M. Asher



Administrator McPherson has approved the payment of Agency Performance Pay Awards to 75 Senior Foreign Service officers. These awards, ranging from \$4,500 to \$10,000, are based on superior performance during the July 1982-May 1983 rating cycle as recommended by the Performance Pay Board.

Following are officers who received Performance Pay Awards:

Richard Allen, Donald Anderson, Peter Askin, Dennis Barrett, Henry

Bassford, Alfred Bisset, Arthur Bjorlykke Jr., Walter Bollinger, Priscilla Boughton, Robert Bourquein, Albert Brown, Malcolm Butler.

Anthony Cauterucci, Daniel Chaij, Robert Clark, John Clyne, Owen Cylke, Martin Dagata, Rolland Deschambault, Richard Dudley, Donald Finberg, Ann Fitzcharles, William Fuller, Allan Furman.

William Gelabert, Charles Gladson, Robin Gomez, Gerald Gower, Abraham Grayson, Frederik Hansen, Edgar Harrell, Hasan Hasan, Allison Herrick, Harland Hobgood, Lane Holdcroft, Christian Holmes.

Charles Johnson, Marion Kellogg, Mary Kilgour, Frank Kimball, John

Koehring, Jerome Lapittus, Donor Lion, Sarah Jane Littlefield, Alexander Ray Love, Howard Lusk.

Princeton Lyman, Van Dyne McCutcheon, Emerson Melaven, David Merrill, Richard Meyer, Ted Morse, Thomas Muntsinger, James Norris, Kevin O'Donnell, Dallas Ostergaard, William Paupe, James Phippard, Lewis Reade, Thomas Reese III, William Rhoads.

Lois Richards, John Sanbrailo, Frederick Schieck, Philip Schwab, David Shear, Keith Sherper, Barry Sidman, Louis Sleeper, Roy Stacy, Jimmie Stone, Melvin Van Doren, Ronald Venezia, Charles Ward, William Wheeler.

AGRICULTURE



The acronym for the International Benchmark Sites Network for Agrotechnology Transfer (IBSNAT) makes it sound like a bug killer.

But it's not. It's an AID project that can help developing countries achieve effective low-cost transfer of agricultural technology.

Sharing of knowledge and experience is an obvious way for any LDC with limited resources for agricultural research to quickly double or triple research output. Such sharing is possible and doesn't cost much, say IBSNAT scientists. IBSNAT's strategy is to exploit the combined research of hundreds of agricultural research stations scattered throughout the tropics. To do that, the project will create a "technology pool," and then manage and share it by computer.

Operation of the technology pool will be a two-way process. LDC researchers will take information from the pool and add their own to it. IBSNAT's job is to create a setting that will make technology transfer happen.

Work has started on a prototype for the network. It has signed up 11 national and two regional research centers. Three international agricultural research centers are also in the network.

Because research results at each center are site-specific—that is, they may not turn out the same way at another site—IBSNAT research will concentrate on sorting out information that will be useful to as many sites as possible.

IBSNAT collaborators have selected 10 crops and identified a minimum set of data needed from experiments on those crops. The crops selected are maize, rice, sorghum, wheat, bean, groundnut, soybean, aroid, cassava and potato. IBSNAT's collaborators developed guidelines for experiments with those crops so that a minimum set of data will be collected on soil, crop, climate and management. The minimum data set was agreed upon last year when collaborators met at the International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

Most developing countries produce crops in a wide range of environments. Such countries have neither time nor resources to find better crops for each environment through trial-and-error research—the only procedure available pre-IBSNAT. Network data on the 10 crops will be collected and analyzed at IBSNAT headquarters at the University of Hawaii.

Crop modelers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service and Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization will help collaborating countries test and validate models for the 10 crops. Once the crop models are developed, the collaborating countries will be able to identify the most suitable crop for each type of land and management situation.

Interest in IBSNAT runs high:

- Fiji has developed a project called

Soil and Crop Evaluation (SCEP).

- It has been proposed that the island nations of the South Pacific (Oceania) form an organization to become part of IBSNAT.

- Pakistan has a project called SCAN (Soil Capability Assessment Network) to work closely with IBSNAT.

- Venezuela has added six agricultural research stations to IBSNAT and will co-sponsor a workshop on modeling for agrotechnology transfer.

IBSNAT collaborators will meet in Hawaii Aug. 13-17 to discuss Networking for Agrotechnology Transfer. IBSNAT is funded by the Bureau for Science and Technology's Office of Agriculture (S&T/AGR) and executed by the universities of Hawaii and Puerto Rico. A brochure describing the project is available from Dr. Tej Gill, project manager, S&T/AGR, Room 408, SA-18.

Less developed countries (LDCs) and middle-income countries are requesting information from INTSORMIL—the Sorghum/Millet Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP)—about a procedure for accurately estimating growing season length and maturity response of sorghum varieties. This procedure uses generally available climatic data, which is analyzed through CLIGEN, a program for small computers. CLIGEN determines the expected growing season and the response of different types of sorghum when planted at various sites.

The success or failure of transferring technologies from one region to another, or of developing and introducing new sorghum varieties and types, are closely related to fitting the new technologies or varieties accurately to climatic conditions where the crop is to be grown. Simple monthly climatic summaries are the most common information readily available, and often are the only reliable data at hand in LDCs. The CLIGEN procedure has been developed to use such data in accurate forecasting.

The CLIGEN program and procedure were published recently by R. E. Neild, INTSORMIL scientist at the University of Nebraska, and two of his graduate students. Both graduate students—Joanne Logan who worked in the Dominican Republic and Arnel Cardenas of the Philippines—have participated in INTSORMIL-funded research. The literature citation of the publication is in *Agricultural Meteorology* 30 (1983): 35-48.

Responding to steadily increasing international interest in operator-carried, lever-operated agricultural sprayers, a small U.S.-based research group has begun a program to define desirable features in a knapsack sprayer.

The program, launched by the International Plant Protection Center (IPPC) at Oregon State University as part of a weed control systems contract with AID, has primarily focused on assessment, practicality, safety, and in-field performance of the lever-operated knapsack (LOK) sprayer.

For a number of years, other research facilities had performed strength and wear tests, and examined

material compatibility with chemicals. "But," said an IPPC spokesman, "nobody, to our knowledge, has extensively evaluated design, construction, and operation from the viewpoint of assisting potential LOK sprayer purchasers or helping manufacturers improve their product."

"What we are doing," he said, "involves observing and inspecting LOK sprayers for their design, functionality, and workmanship as well as attempting to judge how they perform under typical LDC field conditions. For instance, how readily can solutions be poured into the filler opening without causing spillage when the person pouring has to use a bucket? Can liquid slop out during operation and possibly contact the operator? How easily can an operator swing a full sprayer onto his shoulders? Our emphasis is on real world conditions."

LOK sprayers are widely used in LDCs. IPPC's computerized file of worldwide pesticide application equipment manufacturers lists more than 80 firms in 26 countries producing LOK sprayers. AID-funded programs have included provisions for purchasing LOK sprayers to facilitate agricultural development. Information generated by the LOK familiarization program could be useful in making a purchasing decision.

IPPC, since 1966 through its AID contract, has conducted weed control systems research and technical assistance projects focused on small-plot farmers in LDCs.

HEALTH

The Office of Health (S&T/H) participated in a conference on essential drugs for primary health care in developing countries at Harvard University's School of Public Health. More than 160 persons took part in the conference, representing U.S. agencies, international health organizations, pharmaceutical companies, governments and consumer groups.

The AID representative was Rosalyn King, who spoke on the role of donor organizations in providing basic medicines. Other participants came from Canada, Europe and 18 developing countries.

The conference was sponsored by AID, the Swedish aid agency, the Harvard School of Public Health and the Harvard Institute for International Development, the World Health

Organization, UNICEF, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association and the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations.

Conference attendees concluded that presentation and discussion of case studies in a seminar setting is a good way to develop awareness of the many facets of the issue of essential drugs. Suggestions for follow-up were: similar conferences in developing countries; preparing the case for use in other educational settings; and publishing the proceedings for dissemination to public and private sector organizations.

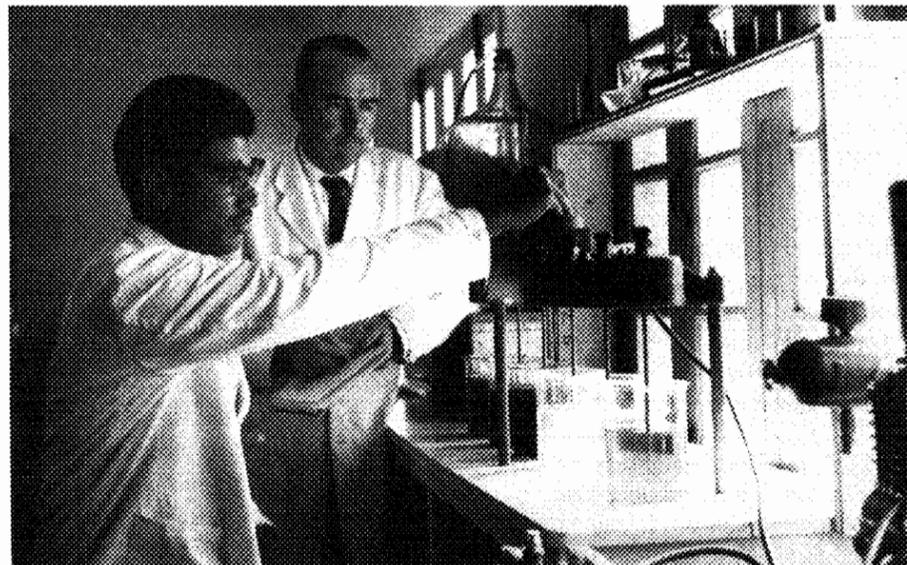
FROM RD

Senior development management adviser David Korten will continue his work in Asia for another 15 months, with the regional bureau and S&T picking up 75% and 25%, respectively, of the cost of the unique arrangement. The Asia Bureau supports Korten's role as executive secretary of AID's Asia Regional Committee on Community Management; funding from the Rural and Institutional Development Office (S&T/RD) covers Korten's professional networking and publication of lessons learned from project activities.

Korten has been helping Asia missions design country development sector strategies and carry out projects emphasizing institutional change and local institutional development. In Indonesia, Korten will help strengthen the link between projects and an overall mission strategy. His efforts will address mission activities in agricultural planning, upland agriculture and private enterprise development and management.

In Thailand, Korten is helping the mission apply new institutional approaches in the Decentralized Development Management and the Northeast Rainfed Agricultural Development Projects. He will continue similar work with the Local Resource Management and the Rainfed Agricultural Development projects for the Philippine mission. In India, he will help the mission begin a new consulting assignment in forestry and irrigation.

For a list or copy of any of Korten's publications and reports, contact Gary Hansen, ST/RD, SA-18, Room 606E, 235-8870.



Sharing of knowledge and experience is a way for LDC's with limited resources for agricultural research to quickly double or triple research output.

ENERGY

Coal that's pumped and burned like oil? AID and the Philippines have signed a project grant agreement covering the first phase of work on a program to substitute coal-water mixtures for oil in existing electrical generators. The initial work consists of a feasibility study funded by the Office of Energy (S&T/EY).

The mixtures to be studied are not ordinary coal slurry—they're synthetic fuels in which finely powdered coal is suspended in water in such a way that a stable, homogeneous fluid is produced, containing 60-75% coal by weight. The fuel can be pumped and handled like fuel oil and used in existing oil-burning equipment with little retrofit.

After the feasibility study, the second phase of the program would be a full-scale demonstration supported by the mission to validate the assumptions made in Phase I. Phase III would demonstrate the use of these fuels for large-scale generation of electricity in the Philippines' National Power Corp.

The use of coal-water mixture in one oil-fired generating station would save the Philippines about nine million barrels of oil and reduce foreign exchange costs by \$270 million. Retrofitting equipment for the coal-water mixture rather than switching to pure coal would save the foreign exchange that would be needed for costly capital investments—as much as \$300 million for the Philippines' Sucat Station.

The technology is potentially applicable to a number of other AID-assisted countries.

NUTRITION

A concerted effort is being made to reverse the tendency in AID programming to bypass important nutrition problems in developing countries.

Recent evidence of this effort is seen in the deliberations at the Asia Bureau and Africa Bureau conferences of health, population and nutrition (HPN) officers in Singapore and Gettysburg, PA. It is also seen in the agenda of the joint meeting of the nutrition and health sector councils this month.

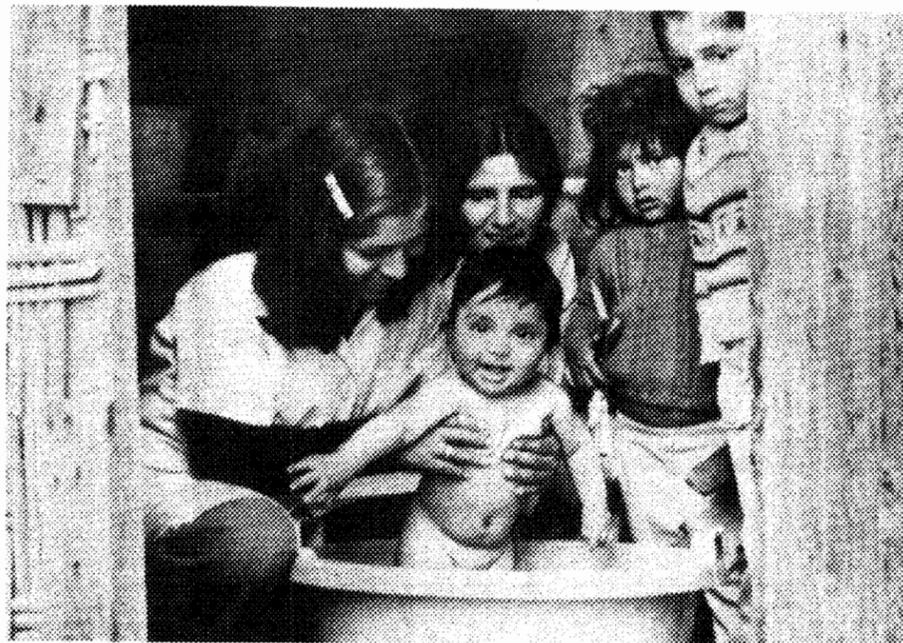
The root of this tendency lies in the complexity of the malnutrition problem and the difficulty in measuring progress.

The complexity of the problem can be seen in the requirements of a nutritionally adequate diet for the general population.

- Adequate supplies of food.
- Adequate purchasing power.
- Adequate knowledge and motivation among consumers.
- Adequate sanitation and health care.

It requires careful analysis to identify the mix of these four factors contributing to malnutrition in any particular developing country situation. It requires sensitive, coordinated programming to get at the causes of malnutrition.

At the Asia Bureau conference for AID HPN officers, attention was given to catch-up growth in children follow-



Education and well-managed feeding must accompany oral rehydration therapy (ORT) so that children not only survive the loss of fluids and salts, but overcome the setbacks in growth and general health.

ing infection and diarrheal disease episodes. There was a strong feeling that education and well-managed feeding must accompany oral rehydration therapy so that children not only survive the loss of fluids and salts, but overcome the setbacks in growth and general health.

The June conference of the Africa Bureau's HPN officers in Gettysburg included informal sessions to plan sub-regional workshops on nutrition in primary health care. These sub-regional workshops are slated for this fall.

The July joint meeting of the nutrition and health sector councils is also focused specifically on nutrition in primary care—but with an Agency-wide perspective.

Similar movements within the agricultural sector have led, for instance, to the organization of a series of in-service training workshops on production/consumption linkages. These are designed for AID officers working directly and indirectly in food and agriculture. One of these workshops will be held in AID/W July 29-Aug. 3. Further information on the August workshop is available through Nick Luykx in S&T's Office of Nutrition.

FROM FNR

A panel of experts has started a six-month review of the Agency's forestry program and will develop recommendations for its future. The panel met last month with Administrator McPherson and Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris.

Robert Youngs, director of the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Products Laboratory, is executive director of the panel and review coordinator. Chairman is Hans Gregersen of the University of Minnesota. Other members are Norman Borlaug of the International Center for the Improvement of Maize and Wheat in Mexico; Frank Wadsworth of the Institute of Tropical Forestry; Norman Johnson, vice president for research, Weyerhaeuser Co.; and Samuel Butterfield, a former AID mission director.

The panel will consider, among other subjects:

- The role of forestry in the Agency's natural resource programs.
- Fuelwood production and its

importance to the poor in developing countries.

- The emphasis on forestry and fuelwood in the Agency's research program.
- The role of forests and forestry in the issues of biological diversity and genetic resources.
- The prospects for small and large forest-based private enterprises and the role of the U.S. private sector.
- The potential role of P.L. 480 programs in supporting the planting of trees.

The panel is expected to report its findings this fall.

POPULATION

A review of research on reproductive immunology recently was held by AID, the National Institutes of Health and the Program for Applied Research on Fertility Regulation. About 35 medically related experts discussed the feasibility of developing vaccines for fertility regulation.

The experts, representing the fields of reproductive biology, endocrinology, biochemistry, immunology and pathology, spent three days reviewing information and exchanging ideas on current and potential research and issue-related strategy for developing immunological methods that can interfere with reproduction in males and females. Their discussions concentrated on research attempts to develop contraceptive vaccines based on using reproductive hormones, sperm proteins or proteins from the ovary as antigens. The prerequisites for an acceptable vaccine in terms of efficacy, safety and reversibility also were discussed.

Participants identified research needs in the area of basic and applied aspects of reproductive biology and immunology. They agreed that immunological approaches offer some unique advantages in fertility regulation, but that considerable research is required before the full potential of the approaches are realized. Participants agreed that, given the complexity of developing contraceptive vaccines, interdisciplinary research is required at the international level.

A workshop report is being prepared. For a copy, contact J.M. Spieler, ST/POP/R, SA-18, Room 820, 703/235-9686.

Elaine Murphy of the office's Information and Training Division recently led a workshop on food and population issues for about 100 teachers attending the 1984 Population Forum. Murphy, who believes that "pop ed" can be an exciting, dynamic addition to the classroom, especially when varied teaching approaches are used, told the educators what population information resources are available for the classroom.

The two-day April meeting, sponsored by Planned Parenthood of Central and Northern Arizona (PPCNA), was attended by representatives of private and public agencies, U.S. and state government leaders, educators, and interested citizens. The meeting was held to heighten public interest and awareness about population issues and how they affect social and economic progress, particularly the quality of life.

On April 11, Depo-Provera was approved for use in the United Kingdom as a quarterly, injectable contraceptive. The approval was based on recommendations of the Committee on Safety of Medicine, and marked the end of several years of public, scientific and political debate. The United Kingdom becomes the latest of more than 80 countries to approve such use for Depo-Provera. The drug is not approved for use as a contraceptive in the United States and has never been supplied to developing countries by AID. Depo-Provera's safety, however, is being reviewed by a U.S. Food and Drug Administration Board of Inquiry.

EDUCATION

Hand-held microcomputer-based teaching devices donated by Texas Instruments (TI) and installed in Lesotho elementary schools for a semester have improved student performance in math and language. Students are very enthusiastic about the learning aids provided under the Education Office's University of Massachusetts Electronic Aids for Literacy Project.

The encouraging results indicate more extensive trials would be worthwhile. The Education Office is considering a more comprehensive program to develop practical applications of these devices, as well as microcomputers and videodiscs.

The editors of the *International Encyclopedia of Communications* have invited Clifford Block, chief of the Educational Technology and Communications Division, to serve as a member of the Editorial Board, made up of the 100 leading scholars in the field.

The encyclopedia, published by the Oxford University Press and the Annenberg School of Communication (University of Pennsylvania), is expected to be a landmark in the scientific study and practice of communications. It will cost \$5 million, contain 1.2 million words, and take five years to complete. The invitation is, in part, an acknowledgement of the Agency's pioneering work in devising significant uses of communications in the development process.