

# CALENDAR

## MARCH

**18-20:** National Council for International Health Conference on "The Role of the U.S. Private Sector in Worldwide Child Immunization Programs," sponsored by Salk Institute for Biological Studies, San Diego, CA. Contact: Curtis Swezy, NCIH, 2100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20037; telephone (202) 466-4740

**19-20:** Implementation of Employment Policies Seminar sponsored by AID/Panama, Panama City, Panama. Contact: Juan Buttari, PPC/PDPR, Washington, DC 20523; telephone (202) 632-1646

**20-22:** International Development Conference, Washington, DC. Contact: International Development Conference, Room 420, 2001 S St. NW, Washington, DC, 20009

**25-29:** Third European Community Energy from Biomass Conference, Venice, Italy. Contact: G. Grassi, Commission of the European Communities, DG XII, rue de la Loi, 200, B-1049, Brussels, Belgium

**28-31:** Second Annual National Preventative Medicine Meeting, "Assessing Risks in a Hazardous World," Atlanta, GA. Contact: Sam Lomauro Associates, 1600 S. Joyce St., Suite A1102, Arlington, VA 22202

**31-April 2:** International Symposium on the Use of Cultured Fish in Fishery Management, MO. Contact: R. Stickney, Department of Zoology, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901

**31-April 3:** The Role of Fish

Culture in Fisheries Management, MO. Contact: Delano Graff, 450 Robinson La., Bellefont, PA 16823

## APRIL

**1-5:** Seminars on "Health Manpower Planning and Management" and "Health Management Information Systems," sponsored by Management Sciences for Health, Kenya. Contact: Elizabeth Dunford, manager of management training, Management Sciences for Health, 165 Allandale Rd., Boston, MA 02130; telephone (617) 524-7799

**3-Sept. 27:** Apprenticeship in Ecological Horticulture, sponsored by the University of California, Santa Cruz, CA. Contact: Agroecology Program, UC, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

**8-26:** Seminar on Managing Drug Supply for Primary Health Care, sponsored by Management Sciences for Health, Boston, MA. Contact: Elizabeth Dunford, manager of management training, Management Sciences for Health, 165 Allandale Rd., Boston, MA 02130; telephone (617) 524-7799

**8-28:** Data Collection, Analysis and Projects for National Fertilizer Sector Studies, sponsored by the International Fertilizer Development Center, Muscle Shoals, AL. Contact: IFDC, Muscle Shoals, AL 35662; telephone (205) 381-6600

**15-July 5:** Development Planning Unit Courses on "Planning with Women for Urban Development: Strategies for Low-Income Households," "Urban Traffic

and Transport Planning," "Urban Land Use Planning," and "Housing Policy Formulation and Implementation." Contact: Development Planning Unit, 9 Endsleigh Gardens, London WC1H 0ED, U.K.

**15-July 5:** Course on "Management Services," sponsored by the Royal Institute of Public Administration. The course focuses on management in the developing world. Contact: Royal Institute of Public Administration, Overseas Services Unit, Hamilton House, Mabledon Pl., London WC1H 9BD, U.K.

**15-July 20:** Development Planning Unit Course on "Sites and Services: Project Design and Evaluation." Contact: Development Planning Unit, 9 Endsleigh Gardens, London WC1H 0ED, U.K.

**21-27:** Conference on Common Property Management Institutions in the Contemporary Third World, Washington, DC. Contact: Board on Science and Technology for International Development, Office of International Affairs, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20418

**25-27:** National Conference of the Association for Women in International Development, Washington, DC. Contact: The Association for Women in International Development, c/o NASULGC, Suite 710, One Dupont Circle, Washington, DC 20036

**28-July 5:** Course on "Community Water Supply and Sanitation," sponsored by Water and Waste Engineering for Developing Countries, U.K. Contact: John Pickford, WEDC, University of Technology, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3TU, U.K.

*Any additions or corrections should be addressed to "Calendar," Front Lines, AID, Washington, DC 20523*

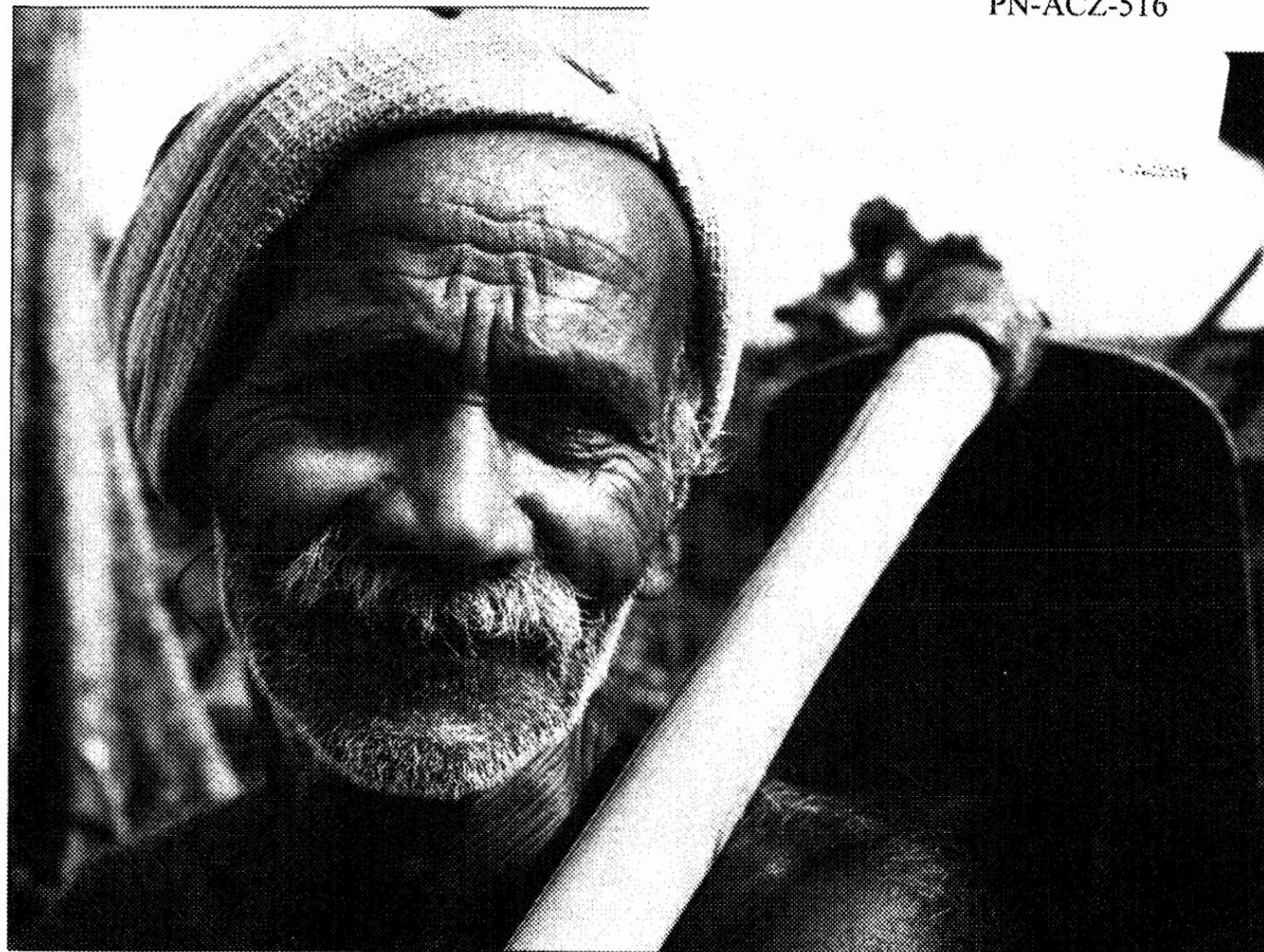
# FRONT LINES

THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MARCH 1985

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

PN-ACZ-516



## AID IN SRI LANKA

### Agency Emphasizes Participant Training

### Vitamin A May Decrease Death Rate

### Only 1.5% Increase in Budget Request

# Agency Emphasizes Participant Training

by Roger Mahan

**T**he number of Third World students coming to the United States under AID-sponsored participant training programs will increase by 50% between now and the next fiscal year, announced Administrator M. Peter McPherson.

In a major address on participant training given at Washington's Meridian House International on Feb. 12, McPherson emphasized the importance of participant training efforts to achieving development in Third World countries. Before an audience of nearly a dozen Ambassadors and scores of diplomatic and consular officials from developing countries, he declared that scholarships would jump from 10,000 to 15,000.

"In order to understand America, one must experience its values and people face-to-face," McPherson said. "It is through education and training that this ideal is best realized. But we cannot narrowly define education as that which takes place only in a classroom, or health care clinic . . . or even in a rice field when new technologies pass from our hands to theirs.

"Education and training is gained by exposure to a whole spectrum of both technological and social advances. It is, after all, people who shape societies and energize a nation's future," McPherson said.

"The United States is not alone in the recognition that 'scholarship diplomacy' builds lasting links," McPherson pointed out. "In fact, the



Speaking at the Meridian House International, Administrator McPherson explains that between 1972 and 1982, U.S. government-sponsored participant training programs declined by 52% while programs run by the Soviet Union and its satellites, not including Cuba, tripled.

Soviet Union is way ahead of us and is lengthening its lead."

McPherson recounted that 110,000 students from developing countries were studying in the Soviet Union and its satellite countries during 1982, when only 8,000 Third World students took part in AID-sponsored participant training in the United States. Two-thirds of those studying under Soviet direction were from non-Marxist developing nations, he noted.

"These young people are returning

to their countries not only with new skills, but new ideologies as well," McPherson said. "They are the key to opening the doors to such ideologies within their own countries.

Remember, too, that Soviet scholarships are carefully targeted to social, political and ethnic groups where this influence will be most useful to them."

In response to this massive Soviet effort, the Reagan Administration has emphasized increasing opportunities for Third World students to receive

training in the United States, McPherson noted. This will help reverse the 10-year decline in training opportunities offered by the United States to Third World students.

Between 1972 and 1982, U.S. government-sponsored programs declined by 52% while programs run by the Soviet Union and its satellites, not including Cuba, tripled. At the end of that 10-year period, Soviet bloc scholarships outnumbered those

(continued on page 4)

## Vitamin A Decreases Death Rate

by Edward Caplan

**A**n estimated 500,000 children in developing countries go blind each year because they do not get enough vitamin A. Now research funded by AID's Office of Nutrition, Bureau of Science and Technology (S&T/N) has linked vitamin A deficiency with disease and death among children in developing countries.

A field trial funded largely by S&T/N involving 30,000 children in Indonesia was conducted by the International Center for Epidemiologic and Preventive Ophthalmology (ICEPO) at Johns Hopkins University. Children in half of the 420 villages in the trial received large oral doses of vitamin A for 18 months. The children who were given vitamin A had a death rate 23% lower than those who did not receive the supplements—35% for those over a year old.

Dr. Alfred Sommers of ICEPO theorizes that vitamin A apparently is necessary for healthy mucous membrane—the surface of the respiratory,

urinary and intestinal tracts which are the major places where bacteria enter the body.

When there's a shortage of vitamin A, the mucous membrane loses its smoothness and starts turning into a substance much like skin, a process called keratinization. This not only impairs the mucous membrane's ability to keep the bacteria out of the rest of the body, but also provides a breeding place for bacteria.

"Unless the blood is tested," Sommers says, "we can detect a vitamin A deficiency only with the first clinical symptoms of *xerophthalmia*, an eye disease that results in blindness. Now we realize that the eyes may be the last organs affected, not the first. And, we find that children with vitamin A deficiency respond very well to therapy.

"We speculate that a mild vitamin A deficiency may be associated with 20-30% of all childhood deaths in developing countries. We may be able to prevent a lot of sickness and death—diarrhea included—by providing sufficient amounts of vitamin A."

Until this latest research, the effort to combat vitamin A deficiency has concentrated on preventing *xerophthalmia*. As the disease progresses, the first symptom is night blindness; then foamy material accumulates on the conjunctiva, the membrane under

(continued on page 4)

## Program to Focus on Child Survival Effort

**T**o help save the lives of thousands of children a day by the end of this decade, AID announced a major Child Survival Action program for children in the Third World on Feb. 20.

In a cable to all AID missions, Administrator McPherson said, "I have ambitious goals: To save the lives of children who might otherwise die from dehydration and other preventable diseases . . . children who might otherwise be crippled by polio or blinded by the complications of measles and malnutrition . . . children whose growth and future prospects might be stunted by malnutrition."

He pointed out that in AID-assisted countries alone, 10 million children die each year. "This is simply not acceptable in a time when we already have simple, inexpensive technologies to save half of those lives," the Administrator said.

Congress has provided \$85 million in fiscal 1985 for a health initiative to accelerate AID's current efforts in child survival programs.

The program will focus on those technologies proven to be effective in

saving children's lives: immunization programs; oral rehydration therapy (ORT); nutrition education; and child spacing.

"As part of this program, I want AID to stay on the cutting edge of technology development for child survival," McPherson emphasized. "Therefore, AID will carry out a focused research initiative with our health funds to improve and apply existing technologies and develop new ways to combat disease and death among children."

Major initiatives will be launched in Bangladesh, the Philippines, Indonesia, India, Haiti, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guatemala, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Rwanda.

McPherson called upon U.S. and indigenous private and voluntary organizations such as UNICEF and the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) to carry out this program.

"I intend for our new activities to have a rapid and marked impact on infant and child mortality," McPherson said. "This is one of AID's greatest challenges. Saving children's lives is a healthy investment in the future."

# Biotechnology Has Promise For Future

by Edward Caplan

**S**oil microbes that produce or make crops produce their own pesticides . . . chickens hatched vaccinated . . . food crops that can better tolerate cold, drought and salty soil . . . are among the many scientific wonders right around the corner as a result of recent advances in genetic engineering, according to Howard Schneiderman. The senior vice president for research and development at the Monsanto Company was the speaker in the first of a series of seminars on biotechnology sponsored by AID and the National Academy of Sciences on Feb. 11.

Speaking to about 75 AID employees on "The Potential of Biotechnology for Development," Schneiderman emphasized that, while his presentation was upbeat and concentrated on the great promise of biotechnology, he was not offering an easy solution to all the problems of developing countries.

He predicted that many of the advances he discussed would exist within the next 15 years. Biotechnology already has made it possible to engineer a bacterium to produce human insulin in large quantities, he said. Most biotechnology efforts in the United States have concentrated on human health problems, especially redesigning bacteria to mass-produce substances to benefit humans such as insulin for diabetics. The Food and Drug Administration currently is reviewing 60 such products.

One of the most interesting possibilities, according to Schneiderman, is the production of neuropeptides, the chemicals created in the brain in only minute quantities which affect specific parts of the brain. Acting upon such functions as pain, anger, appetite and sexuality, manufactured neuropeptides might improve the ability to study and treat such conditions as schizophrenia, depression and Alzheimer's disease.

It also should be possible soon to make great inroads on cancer, he said, since the genetic factor in cancer is now better understood. "We've learned more about cancer in the last two and a half years than we learned in the previous 50," he declared.

As for developing countries, Schneiderman said, "I am optimistic on malaria—we will have a vaccine in five years. It is also likely that we will have a vaccine against trypanosome diseases (caused by parasites transmitted by insects) in the next 15 years. The ideal is a one-shot vaccine (for many diseases) that you get when you're young and stays with you the rest of your life. That's important because of the delivery problems in developing countries."

Of perhaps more importance to developing countries are the prospects Schneiderman cited in plant and animal agriculture. Just over the horizon, he said, are a bovine growth hormone and substances that will increase bovine milk production and



Howard Schneiderman emphasizes the great promise of biotechnology in a seminar sponsored by AID and the National Academy of Sciences.

feeding efficiency. "Eighty cows will produce what 100 produce now," he said.

He also sees improvement in the nutritional value of present crops, varieties that mature earlier, plants that hold topsoil in place and crops that resist insects, other pests and diseases.

"The progress has been enormous," he said. "Within eight years, we're going to have genetically engineered seeds for some important crops."

Several times in his presentation and during the question period, Schneiderman emphasized the important role the U.S. government plays in biotechnological research. A definite requirement for the continuation of advances in biotechnology, he asserted, is a reliable level of federal funding for basic research done at universities. "We are now starting to get the dividends from the \$60 billion investment we have made in the network of university researchers set up over the last few decades," he added.

He said another requirement is the "ready access" of germ plasm—the building blocks of biotechnology. If any countries restrict the international movement of germ plasm, progress will be impeded, he said.

Asked if biotechnology can make any contribution to the slowing of population growth, Schneiderman said that science might develop new contraceptives and contribute to a prosperity that would tend to reduce birth rates.

He said, in another answer, that AID can best help African nations be ready for the new technologies by educating and training young African men and women. His company is now training six to 10 persons from the People's Republic of China and certainly would participate in a wider effort, he added.

Caplan is an information specialist in the Publications and Information Division of the Bureau for Science and Technology.

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**Errata:** In the February issue in the feature "Ancient Methods Assist Development," the project was reported incorrectly as being from the Bureau of Science and Technology. It was an Office of the Science Advisor project.

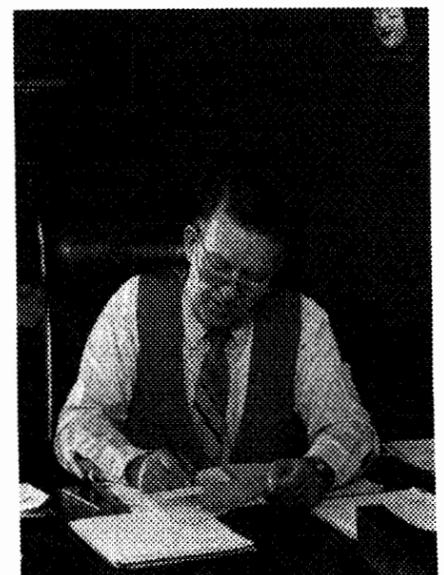
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Cover Photo: A Sri Lankan farmer is one of thousands who will benefit from the Mahaweli project—page 10



Personality Profile: Nyle C. Brady—page 5

# TFAF Ensures Relief Effort on Target

by Ross Barnes

**T**he drought conditions that have affected many African countries over the past several years are tragic and monumental.

To make sure U.S. relief efforts reach those in need, Administrator McPherson, in his role as the President's special coordinator for International Disaster Assistance, created the Interagency Task Force on Africa Emergency (TFAF).

"The task force was given three charges when it was created last October. We were to identify the number and location of people at risk, determine an appropriate U.S. response and provide assistance in a timely and responsive manner," says Phil Buechler, TFAF executive officer.

"To meet our objectives we needed to determine food and non-food needs to quantify the U.S. response. Through international organizations such as the U.N. Office of Emergency Operations for Africa, we are working with other donors to provide a coordinated assistance response to host governments, non-government organizations and the U.S. mission."

Lt. Col. William Ingwersen, a logistics expert on detail from the Department of Defense, describes the efforts of the task force as "challenging and calling for a great deal of coordination from the highest levels of government down to local officials."

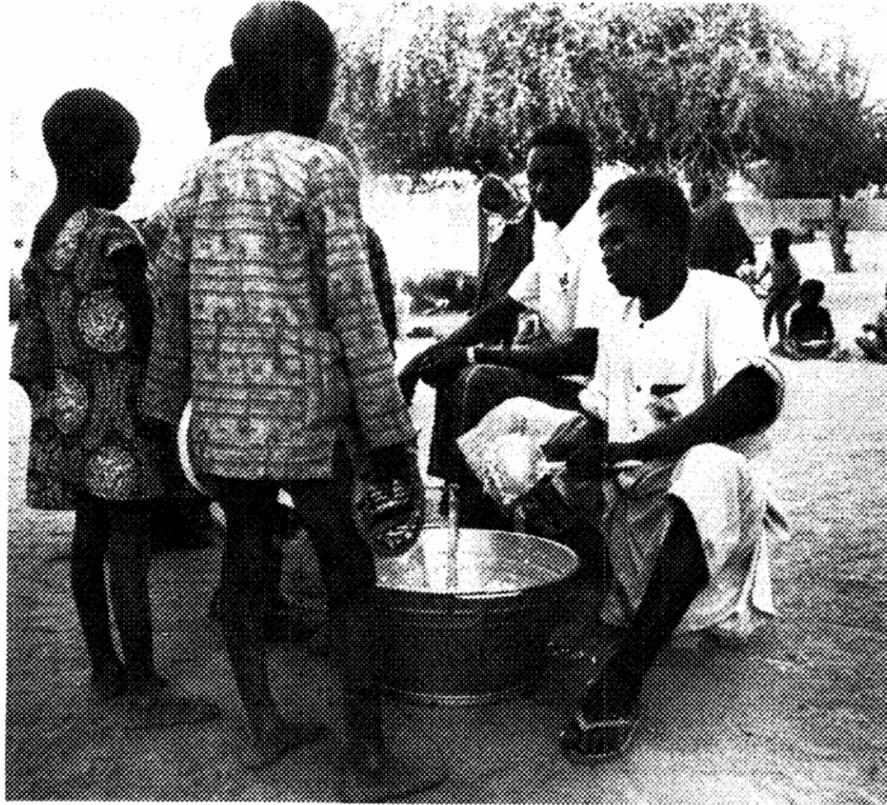
Because the volume of food needed in Africa this year is several times greater than in previous years, transportation of that food from ports to feeding centers is now more critical. Inadequate port facilities in several African countries limit the size of vessels that can bring grain and other food stuffs from U.S. ports.

Land-locked countries such as Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Niger pose different problems. All shipments to these countries must first pass through at least one other country that has port facilities. In some cases a shipment to a land-locked country will have to pass through more than one country to reach the destination point. This requires detailed coordination and solutions to problems that may impede prompt delivery.

In the northwest sections of Ethiopia, for example, the provinces of Eritrea, Tigray and Welo have millions of famine victims where the lack of roads complicates delivery of grain. Chad, one of the land-locked countries on the "critical need" list, has only 17 miles of paved roads through its entire nation.

The task force, working with the international donor community, aims to keep transportation difficulties at a minimum to ensure a steady flow of food and other emergency supplies.

Trucks provide the primary method of transportation in Africa. Although they have limited load capacity, trucks can move cargo where other means of transportation are impractical or much more expensive. For instance, railroads either do not exist or are severely limited in most of the affected



The amount of emergency food assistance to Africa this year will exceed 1.3 million metric tons, worth more than \$490.2 million.

African countries.

Another transportation specialist detailed to TFAF is Frank Garcia of the Department of Transportation. He points out, "One minute we may be dealing with problems of unloading a ship in a west African port and the next minute Col. Ingwersen is checking the need for a pontoon bridge in another country. We face new challenges every working day."

TFAF staff members even have considered the possibility of using aircraft to drop food to reach isolated pockets of dire need. Air drops are expensive and load capacity is restricted, but they can be used when necessary.

"When a decision is made to send a shipment to a particular country, it may well take three months to arrive at the point of distribution," Jim Kelly, task force deputy director, acknowledges.

"We are now trying to pre-position shipments—that is, get food to a place where it will be needed—for use in future months."

Transportation is definitely the major problem facing the donors. However, Kelly, a veteran of the 1974 African drought, points out that coordination between donor countries has greatly improved since the drought emergency of the mid 70's.

Although the donors are working together to feed those starving in Ethiopia, over one-half million Ethiopians have found it necessary to seek food in refugee camps in eastern and southern Sudan. Many of these camps were located where water was sufficient for a few thousand persons.

However, the continuing pressures of an increasing number of refugees have strained the meager water resources. Water for drinking and cooking is disappearing and sanitation facilities do not exist in many camps. There is a real fear that the overcrowded camps may become incubators for epidemics that could further

threaten the lives of already weakened refugees. TFAF-dispatched engineers recently have completed an exhaustive study of these problems and the teams' recommendations may ease some of the refugee camp health problems.

"Two major Ethiopian refugee camps located in Sudan are being moved because of water and sanitation problems," says Dr. Jake van der Vlugt who directs the health focus for TFAF. More than 90,000 people must be relocated to another site 200 kilometers away where there is enough potable water to meet the current needs of these two camps.

"From a medical standpoint," explains van der Vlugt, "the number one killer in drought affected Africa is starvation. Next, water and sanitation problems cause diarrheal disease resulting in deaths, especially among children. Pneumonia and tropical diseases such as malaria also claim thousands of victims."

"Water engineering teams dispatched by the task force also have completed a survey in Burkina Faso and soon will develop a water strategy for all affected nations in Africa," adds Harry Harris of the task force.

TFAF not only tries to resolve health problems and bottlenecks in the delivery system, it also acts as a response center for public offers of help. Task force member Barbara Ludden says calls from the public serve several important needs, including a citizen's right to contact the government and feel that he has spoken to a "live and responsive" federal employee.

Among calls she received are from farmers in Minnesota who, with the cooperation of the governor and the Department of Agriculture, decided that each wheat farmer in the state would donate a bushel of wheat to be sent to famine victims. Because of transportation costs, the farmers then decided that each would sell a bushel of wheat and use the proceeds to pay

for bagging and shipping. This project is still being completed.

According to Ludden, private sector response has been swift and effective. For example, the Bunge Corp., Lauhoff Grain Division, Danville, Ill., donated 400,000 pounds of corn-soya-milk—enough to furnish one million meals for Ethiopian children. Not only did the firm mobilize the resources for this donation, it also made arrangements to transport the gift to an appropriate private and voluntary organization, insuring proper distribution.

Pharmaceutical firms have been especially generous. For instance, the firm of Merck, Sharpe and Dohme donated measles vaccine to inoculate more than 100,000 children.

Ludden says, "Individuals and groups across the United States have independently launched drives to provide help for the famine victims. However, sometimes this presents a problem. Canned goods are expensive to transport, difficult to handle, and for the most part, alien and non-digestible to severely malnourished Africans. Articles of clothing must be sorted, cleaned and packed, and in the current extreme disaster, rarely meet the needs of the people."

Individuals who call are strongly urged to donate cash. "Although it seems impersonal," Ludden says, "cash affords the flexibility to meet the immediate, identifiable needs of these unfortunate people."

While Ethiopia with an estimated 7.75 million people at risk, has received the most attention in news accounts, seven other African countries are now listed as most severely affected by the drought including Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique and Niger. Kenya and Sudan are recent additions to the list of countries with critical food shortages. The United States is currently sending emergency food to 21 African nations.

The amount of emergency food assistance going to Africa this year will exceed 1.3 million metric tons worth more than \$490.2 million. The task force will continue to operate as long as there is an emergency situation, according to Julius Becton, director of the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and chairman of the task force. He estimates that TFAF will be active through fiscal 1985.

"The members of the task force are both determined and resourceful," says Becton. "When this emergency is over and we look back, we will be able to say that the task force responded swiftly and responsibly to an urgent and critical problem."

Joining AID on the task force are representatives from Departments of Transportation, Defense, Health and Human Services, Treasury, State, Agriculture, National Security Council, Office of Management and Budget and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

*Barnes is a writer-editor assigned to the Bureau for External Affairs.*

The Administration has submitted its fiscal 1986 budget request to Congress and the tight budget reflects the Administration's concern with the federal deficit.

Overall government expenditures are projected to increase just 1.5% in fiscal 1986, and new budget authority would drop slightly, as a result of cutbacks in many federal programs. Foreign assistance requests remain about the same.

The foreign assistance budget request totals \$14.8 billion. The request excludes economic assistance for Israel, on which a decision has yet to be made. By comparison, the enacted fiscal 1985 foreign assistance program amounts to \$15.1 billion. Excluding the \$1.2 billion in Economic Support Funds (ESF) provided for Israel, however, it totals \$13.9 billion.

The economic assistance portion of the request, including ESF, totals \$8.2 billion. It includes \$1.5 billion for payments to the multilateral development banks and voluntary contributions to international organizations, \$5.0 billion for AID Development Assistance (DA) and ESF, and \$1.3 billion for P.L. 480, plus a total of \$0.9 billion (minus receipts for loan repayments) for other bilateral programs such as migration and refugee aid, the Peace Corps and international narcotics control. It also includes a special appropriation to aid Micronesia and the Marshall Islands in their transition to sovereignty.

The AID budget authority request for DA and ESF is almost identical to the comparable planned level for fiscal 1985—including proposed supplements but excluding Israel.

The Development Assistance request of \$2.133 billion is down \$200 million from planned fiscal 1985 budget authority levels. Reductions occurred principally in the functional accounts, \$104 million below planned fiscal 1985 levels, the Housing Guaranty Reserve which had a one-time \$40 million fiscal 1985 appropriation, and Disaster Assistance which, at \$50 million for fiscal 1985, includes a \$25 million fiscal 1985 supplemental request for Africa.

Within the functional accounts, shifts in the program levels included:

- The Agricultural request is up 5% from the current appropriation, due

## Only 1.5% Increase in Budget Request

mainly to a planned increase in agricultural aid to Africa.

- The Population account was held to the fiscal 1985 request level of \$250 million, despite some forward funding in fiscal 1985 due to a Congressional increase.

- The request for Health is \$146 million—down slightly from last year's request due to the substantial increase in funding during the current year, which permitted forward funding of some health activities planned for fiscal 1986.

- Education funding is down \$5 million from the fiscal 1985 request and appropriation.

- The Selected Development Activities account, down about \$13 million from last year's request, is, nevertheless, up about 10% for the current 1985 level.

- The Sahel program, requested under the functional accounts, is down \$17 million from the fiscal 1985 request and appropriation.

Other DA programs—the Private Sector Revolving Fund, American Schools and Hospitals Abroad, and Disaster Assistance—all were held to the fiscal 1985 request levels.

The request for AID operating expenses was cut \$4.5 million from the current appropriation as part of the government-wide effort to achieve management savings. The Agency is currently reviewing its organization to find more cost-efficient ways of running its program within the tight operating expense budget level.

The ESF request for countries other than Israel is up \$236 million from the fiscal 1985 request and about \$200 million above the comparable fiscal 1985 enacted appropriation. However, it is still \$189 million below the fiscal 1985 operating budget which also includes funds carried over from prior supplementals for Lebanon and Central America.

Increases are projected for several African countries, for Pakistan as part of an agreed multi-year commitment, for Morocco, and for regional programs in the Caribbean and the Near East. New programs are slated to start up in the Andean countries of Peru,

Ecuador and Bolivia. ESF for Turkey would be cut, based on its recent economic progress.

For P.L. 480, the budget authority request totals \$1.307 billion. The Title I request of \$657 million in budget authority will support a program level of \$1.03 billion. While this appears to be a lower level than the current fiscal program level of \$1.106 billion, the fiscal 1985 program level has been increased over Administration request levels by the expenditure in fiscal 1985 of \$175 million in supplemental funds provided in fiscal 1984. Next year, the request is expected to provide for 5 million metric tons of food under Title I to 33 countries.

For Title II, the request is \$650

million, sufficient to provide almost two million metric tons of food. The fiscal 1985 request of \$650 million was projected to fund 1.7 million metric tons. The Title II regular voluntary agency programs for Africa have been increased from the fiscal 1985 level. At least \$25 million has been designated from the unallocated reserve for enhancement of these programs to help Africa recover from the effects of the current drought. The fiscal 1986 request, along with this year's reprogramming efforts and the supplemental request, should meet current projected food aid needs for Africa. If conditions require an extraordinary U.S. food aid response to Africa in fiscal 1986 and available resources prove to be inadequate, a further supplemental appropriation may be considered.

—James Painter  
chief of the Planning and Resource Systems Division, Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination

## Vitamin A

From page 1, column 2

the eyelid. Next, the conjunctiva becomes dry and rough, the cornea dries out and ulcerates, and, ultimately, the cornea ruptures, leaving the eye sightless. Until the cornea ruptures, the eye responds dramatically to inexpensive vitamin A therapy.

AID is helping train people in developing countries to recognize, treat and prevent vitamin A deficiency. Since 1974, AID has spent \$4.5 million in leading the world's effort. The Agency has helped 21 countries assess the extent of the deficiency and plan their attack on the problem. AID also has assisted 13 countries in beginning prevention programs.

For example, in Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras and Panama, blood tests revealed a widespread deficiency of vitamin A. The four countries' legislatures ordered all centrally processed sugar for home consumption to be fortified with the vitamin.

The results were noteworthy. Before fortification in Guatemala, studies indicated that 18.2% of preschool

children had low vitamin A levels. After two years of fortification, the figure dropped to 0.3%. In Costa Rica, that figure dropped from 32.5% in 1966 to only 2.3% in 1978 after sugar fortification had been in effect for three years.

Only six donor organizations and six countries were making any effort to combat nutritional blindness 10 years ago. Now 14 organizations and 18 countries have ongoing or planned programs to prevent or treat vitamin A deficiency.

John McKigney, S&T/N vitamin A specialist, estimates that such programs save 100,000 children a year from a life of blindness. "And as many as 400,000 more children's lives can be saved," he says.

S&T/N plans to sponsor additional research into ICEPO's findings. If the research verifies the ICEPO results, as expected, national vitamin A action programs will do more than prevent blindness—they also will have a significant impact in reducing childhood mortality in developing countries.

—Edward Caplan

## Training

From page 1, column 4

offered by the United States seven to one.

Beyond increasing the number of training opportunities available, McPherson said that AID intends to broaden its programs to encompass a wider cross-section of students. McPherson cited the Central American Peace Scholarship project, which will permit a large undergraduate program for the first time. In contrast to recent AID emphasis on postgraduate study in agriculture, nutrition and other development-oriented fields, the Peace Scholarships project will allow for greater flexibility in course offerings.

McPherson also noted that recruitment efforts will become more broadly based, focusing on leadership ability rather than dedication to an AID-

priority development field.

Greater emphasis will be made to better prepare students for their education through remedial and English training in the United States before they begin classes. Furthermore, AID will seek out scholarship candidates from among the most disadvantaged, the same people frequently targeted by Soviet recruiters, McPherson said.

He pointed out, "We have taken dramatic first steps in expanding the number and quality of students being brought to our shores to learn new skills while they learn about America and its people . . . To wisely use our education resources to diminish want in the shrinking world around us is to reduce the chance of strife for others, and ultimately, for ourselves."

Mahan is a senior writer-editor in the Bureau for External Affairs.

	Fiscal 1985				FY 1986 Request
	Request	Continuing Resolution	Supplemental	Total	
Multilateral Assistance	1,229	1,311	237	1,548	1,347
Int. Organizations	242	358	—	358	196
Total Multilateral	1,471	1,669	237	1,906	1,543
AID Development Assistance	2,160	2,308	25	2,333	2,133
ESF Israel	910	1,200	—	1,200	—
ESF Other Countries	2,558	2,626	—	2,626	2,824
Total, AID (Excl. Israel)	4,758	4,934	25	4,959	4,957
P.L. 480	1,355	1,355	185	1,540	1,307
Other Bilateral Assistance	846	539	25	564	849
Less Receipts	-496	-460	—	-460	-479
Total Economic Assistance (Excl. Israel)	8,840	9,237	472	9,709	8,177
	7,930	7,637	472	8,509	8,177

## PERSONALITY FOCUS

## Nyle C. Brady

by Roger Mahan

Soft-spoken Nyle Brady epitomizes the quiet dignity of his Mormon pioneer forefathers. Senior assistant administrator of the Bureau for Science and Technology (S&T) since 1981, he oversees the Agency's technical arm. His bureau includes hundreds of technical experts and specialists working on a myriad of projects to better the lives of millions. But his calm, collected manner belies the magnitude of his job and combines with the soft lights of his office to put visitors at ease.

Managing a vast apparatus of scientific talent from his fourth-floor office at AID is far-removed from the world of Manassa, Colo. However, the small Mormon farming community where Brady was born soon after World War I has left its mark. Brady was first exposed to agriculture on his family's farm, which he worked with his four brothers. "I was driving a side-delivery rake when I was 10 years old," he relates, referring to a horse-drawn rake used to gather mown hay.

His father was the local postmaster, so the five boys carried much of the burden of running the farm. "My father ran the farm on the side, primarily through his sons," Brady remembers. "We were the workforce. We had one hired man, but we did most of the work."

Growing up in a one-square mile town of 1,000 people was "rather pleasant," Brady recalls. "You didn't have the constraints we find on ourselves living in cities today. There was much greater freedom there, but also much greater responsibility, due to the work that needed to be done on the farm."

When Brady went off to Brigham Young University in 1937, he studied chemistry. But an influential professor led him back into an agricultural discipline. "I had a chemistry professor during my undergraduate days who encouraged me to go into soil chemistry," Brady recalls. From there on, with the exception of a two-year hitch in the Army at the end of World War II, Brady has been deeply involved in agricultural research and education.

Brady received his doctorate in soil science from North Carolina State University in 1947. That same year, he received the National Peanut Council Award for Research, based on his discovery that peanuts must be surrounded by soil and water containing calcium to produce a healthy nut.

Also in 1947, Brady joined the faculty of Cornell University as assistant professor of agronomy. He remains on the Cornell faculty today as professor emeritus.

An internationally known agronomist, Brady often has been recognized by his peers in the scientific community. He served as chairman of the agricultural board of the National Academy of Sciences for three years, and was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of

Science. Prior to joining the Agency, he spent eight years as director general of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines.

But when queried about his achievements, he is characteristically modest. Asked how many millions of people have benefited from the agricultural research with which he has been involved, Brady defers. "I think it would be unfair to relate it just to me," he says. "The new rices and associated technologies which resulted from the work of IRRI and its cooperating scientists in national programs provide \$2-4 billion worth of additional rice annually, depending on the price of rice."

Coming to AID in 1981 from the International Rice Research Institute involved some adjustment, Brady says. "I have never seen greater speed in identifying and solving problems than at IRRI," he recalls. "We didn't have to wait for a bid or a project paper or anything else. We saw a new virus show up, and within a week, several scientists were working on it. The plant breeder, the nutritionist, the plant

**"Technical people should be viewed as leaders in advancing science and technology."**

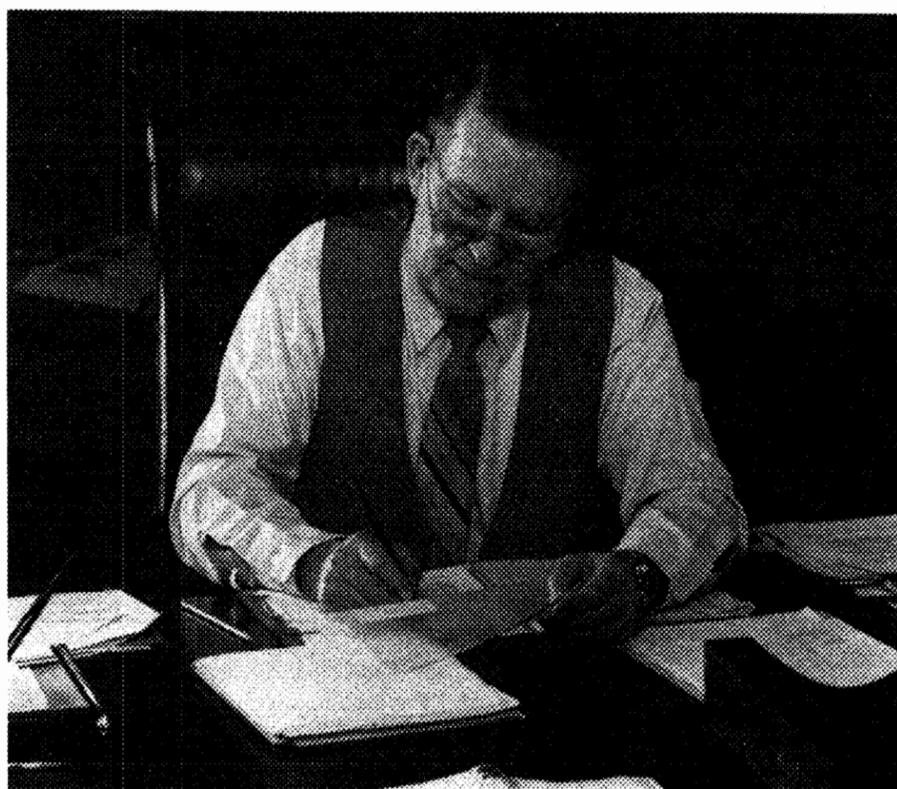
pathologist, the entomologist and the chemist began collaborating immediately. Usually within six months we knew what the virus was, and we knew whether any of our rice variations had resistance to it. At maximum it took a year to do this.

"The most significant difference I've encountered between AID and IRRI is working with the big bureaucracy. Here, congressional and other requirements force us to take years to do things that really, in the interests of science, ought not to take more than months."

As a scientist, Brady finds it somewhat frustrating coming from an environment in which one obtains comparatively immediate results to one in which patience is a necessary virtue. "However," he notes, "someone must take on the challenge, and I feel that AID officers are just as eager to get things done as I am. They want to get things through the system as fast as it will allow them, and they get just as frustrated as I do, so there's nothing unique about me."

Brady admits that his current position calls more on his talents as an administrator than as a scientist; however, he recognizes the situation as inevitable in a large organization.

"By forcing myself to read, I can at least keep up in a very general way with the broad field of science, and more particularly with my own spe-



Keeping current in one's scientific specialty is important, and Nyle Brady promotes this process among AID's technical specialists.

cialty," Brady says. "I have two ways of keeping current. I am the editor of an annual publication called *Advances in Agronomy*, which means that in at least 10 different areas, I force myself to be brought up to date each year. And then, of course, there is the revision of my textbook, *The Nature and Properties of Soils*. The book is now in its ninth edition, released last year. Keeping that current forces me to read the literature about what's going on in my field."

Staying current in one's scientific specialty is important to Brady, and this makes him more aware of the need to promote the process among AID's technical specialists. "Frequently, our system at AID limits the time technical people have to keep themselves up to date in their field. It is a constant challenge for them to do so," he notes.

Improving the opportunities for training among AID's technical people is one of Brady's goals as senior assistant administrator. "We've initiated the Joint Career Corps (JCC), in which university professors serve as de-facto AID officers in the field, and AID officers work on university campuses. One AID person has completed his term at a university, three others are now at universities, and we have another four we are negotiating with universities about. I hope we can accelerate this effort," Brady says. "It's really better for them in a way than a direct training opportunity, since they learn more if they're having to do rather than just sitting and listening. If you want to learn something well, teach it to someone else."

Topping his wish list of accomplishments for his tenure here is helping the Agency make more effective use of science and technology in development.

"Enhancing the role of technical people within AID is my primary goal," Brady says. "There's a tendency, as AID personnel numbers have been reduced, for the technical people to be viewed more as technicians than as leaders in advancing science and technology. There are times when they have to serve as technicians, but there are other times when their inputs should be used in determining what the

Agency does. I think some progress can be made in this regard.

"The health people should be thinking about what we need in health, not just in terms of S&T, or what is needed just in the Near East Bureau. They should address the questions, 'What does the Agency need in health? What are the kinds of things we ought to be doing?' We need to broaden their thinking and give them the mechanisms through which they can speak."

Brady points to the sector councils as examples of implementing broader input from the technical people within the work of the Agency. "The sector councils provide opportunities for the technical people to have more interaction with their colleagues in the field. They have helped reduce the thickness of the walls between bureaus. I think some significant progress has been made through the councils," Brady notes.

The sector councils are representative of Brady's management style, which emphasizes communication among specialists in given fields to coordinate AID's work in those fields, rather than relying solely on regional bureaus to develop programs. Such an approach, which links, for example, health specialists in S&T with health officers in missions in Asia, Africa, the Near East and Latin America is more efficient and effective, Brady feels.

For example, he notes, research which produced a drought-tolerant high-yield sorghum variety in the Sudan might have been more productive if carried out simultaneously in several other countries in the Sahel. Because that did not happen, Brady notes, seeds for this new variety will be sent to countries where their success may be jeopardized by factors not present in the Sudan, such as unusual local pests.

Increasing the opportunities for productive networking among AID's technicians, therefore, is an important goal for Brady.

Other than these goals for the Agency, Brady recounts that he's not one to envision a "capstone" for his career. "The only job I ever

(continued on page 14)



## CDIE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

### QUICK DATA ACCESS PROVIDED

**T**he Center for Development Information and Evaluation (CDIE) has scheduled a series of classes on the use of an AID-developed Quick Access System for the Agency's economic and social data base (ESDB).

The easy-to-use system provides direct access to national statistical data from a wide range of data sources including AID, World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is available at all Agency terminals.

Each training class receives information on the data sources, instruction on how to retrieve the material and an explanation of the graphics and maps available in the system.

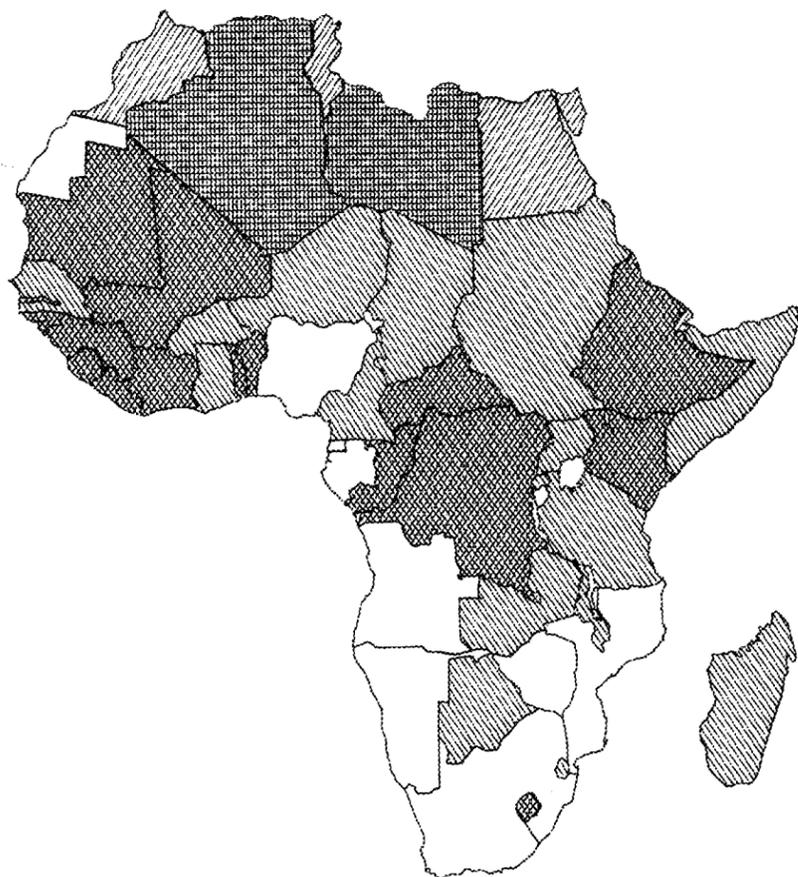
The Quick Access System gives Agency users speedy and direct access to 25 years worth of reports and graphics covering over 1,000 social and economic issues.

Activated by a one-word command, the system provides a wide range of reports such as balance of trade, economic and social indicators, public finance, external debt statistics and world energy use.

The system contains over 100 standard reports in both time-series and country comparison formats and a large selection of user-created reports. It also provides graphs, maps and tabulation reports for every individual variable within the ESDB system.

The Quick Access System uses English language questions and responses and requires no programming background. The data base is updated every year to keep current with the data source and is usually years ahead of most printed source materials.

AID mission and field staff can get standard reports, graphics or maps from the Quick Access System by contacting their Washington offices or PPC/CDIE, room 621, SA-14.



PERCENT

LESS THAN 25%	25% TO 49%
50% TO 75%	75% TO 100%

### POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SAFE WATER

Source: CDIE's Economic and Social Data Base

# Biological Diversity Part of Development

**P**rovisions for conserving biological diversity must be incorporated into development planning from the very beginning, the Interagency Task Force on Biological Diversity asserted in its report to Congress last month.

The report was the result of a 1983 amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act in which Congress directed that a strategy be prepared to conserve biological diversity in developing countries.

The report pointed out that valuable, productive resources—tropical forests, marine and coastal ecosystems, arid and semi-arid lands, alpine zones, fresh water, watersheds and wetlands—are deteriorating rapidly in developing countries. It emphasized, "Where ecosystems or

species' habitats are being destroyed or irretrievably altered, the very basis of sustained economic development is at risk."

The task force concluded that "the loss of biological diversity in developing countries is due largely to the demands of growing populations on natural resources—exacerbated by developing countries' attempts to realize short-term economic gains, even at the cost of the long-term productivity of natural resources."

According to the task force's chairman, Nyle Brady, the report made 67 specific recommendations for U.S. agencies (including AID and Congress), international donors and private and voluntary organizations. It was divided into: policy dialogue and national policies; public awareness and education; institutions and training; research and inventories; resource management; human population pressures; and organizational coordination.

The report discussed each subject and included recommendations in each area. It also identified specific participating agencies and organizations to carry out the recommendations.

Recommendations for AID included:

- Withhold support for projects that degrade or destroy fragile or protected lands.

- Assist developing countries in designing and implementing programs to increase public awareness of conservation issues.

- Incorporate training in natural resource management into each development project affecting natural resources.

- Train relevant mission staff in natural resource management before assignment.

- Help developing countries prepare

national and regional plans, environmental profiles and/or conservation strategies to achieve suitable development.

- Consider broader use of PL-480 funds in support of programs that conserve biological diversity.
- Continue to increase technical assistance to support family planning programs.
- Support ongoing training for developing countries in protection of germ plasm.

The report cited AID's sector strategies on environment and forestry as large steps toward the task force's goals. It also quoted Administrator McPherson's statement that more could and should be done to assure that all AID programs are consistent with those strategies and the policies on which they are based.

—Edward Caplan  
technical information specialist  
Bureau for Science and Technology

## CDIE's W. Haven North Elected DAC Chairman

**T**he Experts Group on Evaluation of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) elected W. Haven North, head of the Center for Development Information and Evaluation, Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination (PPC/CDIE), as its chairman.

The experts group includes representatives from 17 Western donor countries, the European Economic Community, World Bank, U.N. Development Program and the regional development banks.

North said that the task of the group is to convey to aid leaders ways in which they can improve the quality of aid by "drawing on our experience in development programs."

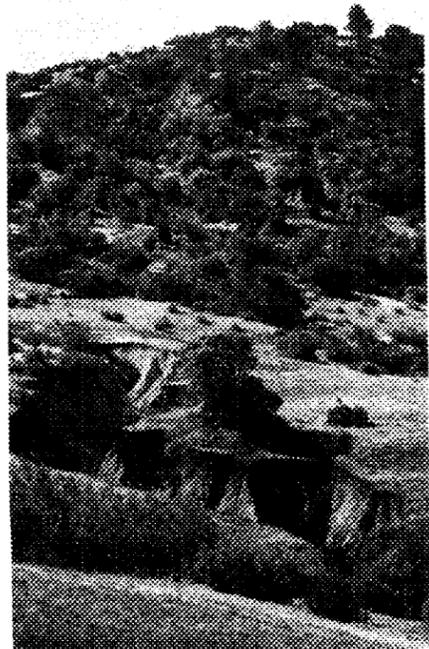
Quoting from the outgoing chairman's annual report, North said, "Evaluators are raising a fundamental challenge—to put the development quality of aid above all conflicting considerations.

"The agenda for the coming year

includes a review of non-project aid, country programming systems and the feedback of evaluation findings in aid policy and design. Topics of joint interest include Women in Development, technical cooperation project sustainability and recurrent costs."

Also during 1985, the experts group expects to publish, under the auspices of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a "Compendium of Donor Procedures and Practices," compiled and written by PPC/CDIE. This report will be useful to donors and recipients alike in understanding the purpose, methods and vocabulary of evaluation. The group will also be preparing guidelines on evaluation feedback to be incorporated in DAC country reviews.

North pointed out that AID's return to the chairmanship of the group, which it helped form in 1979, provides a new opportunity to help improve donor practices in development assistance.



Valuable, productive resources are deteriorating rapidly in developing countries.

## AID Focuses on Industrial Emergencies

Under a new AID project, corporations will send experts to industrial facilities in developing countries for improving or creating new systems to prevent and respond to industrial accidents, Administrator McPherson announced on Jan. 30. The experts also will train local staff in emergency response management.

The project, which will build on an existing five-year AID program with U.S. industry known as the International Environment and Development Service, follows the recent lethal gas-leak disaster in a pesticide plant in Bhopal, India. The program is administered by the World Environment Center, a non-profit, non-advocacy organization concerned with environment and development.

Under this project, a developing country will ask local AID officials to provide an expert or team to assess plans for preventing or responding to industrial emergencies. Presently, many chemical plants, petrochemical operations and other industrial complexes in the Third World do not have effective systems to prevent disasters or to insure the safety of people in the area.

U.S. specialists, who are experts in a broad range of industrial processes, including petrochemical, chemical, paper and manufacturing, will work closely with local plant managers to create a system that will meet their particular emergency needs.

The project is expected to get underway this spring.

# AID BRIEFS



AID secretary Beverly Renwick gives Grenadian children toys donated by AID employees who attended the Administrator's Christmas party. Approximately 200 toys were donated at an estimated cost of \$2,500. Grenadian children at the Kennedy House for Children, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Greenville Hospital, Sateurs Day Nursery and St. David's Church received the gifts. Jerome Scott, an AID employee, also helped distribute the toys.

## Market Rate for U.S. Bonds Now at 10.94%

The market-based interest rate for series EE Bonds issued between Nov. 1, 1984 and April 30, 1985 is 10.94% for their first semiannual interest period. Older Series EE and E Bonds and U.S. Savings Notes will also receive this market-based rate for six-month interest periods.

Series EE Bonds issued since Nov. 1, 1982, must be held at least five years to qualify for market-based rates. Accrual securities issued before that date are eligible for market-based rates if held and earn interest to the first interest-accrual date on or after Nov. 1, 1987.

The average rate for the first five market-based interest periods is 10%. However, only eligible bonds bearing issue dates on or before April 1983 include this average as part of their market-based formula.

Average rates change every six months with each new market-based rate. The minimum guaranteed yield on bonds held five years or longer is 7.5%.

U.S. Savings Bonds authorization forms may be obtained through the administrative or mission office.

## AID Funds Tsunami System

AID signed an agreement on Feb. 7 with the government of Chile for the development and installation of a pilot Tsunami (tidal wave) Early Warning System.

The \$402,000 AID grant will be operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and headquartered at the Chilean Navy Hydrographic Institute in Valparaiso.

The grant will be used to procure, construct and test two strong motion seismic event detectors and two water level sensors with satellite links for installations in Chile. The two water level sensors will be installed at Valparaiso harbor, one seismic event sensor will be placed at the Chilean Navy Hydrographic Institute and one will be at the Geology and Geophysics Department at the University of Chile.

Tsunamis, which are tidal waves of devastating force, are prevalent along the shores of the Pacific Ocean. They occur when a strong earthquake erupts under or near the ocean floor, triggering a series of ocean waves of extremely long length and duration. The waves sweep across the ocean at approximately 600 miles per hour. (The speed of sound is 750 miles per hour at sea level.) The tsunamis often reach heights of over 100 feet.

The greatest danger comes when tidal waves caused by near-shore earthquakes are not detected before they crash into the coastline. They cannot be felt aboard ships under which they pass, nor can they be seen from the air.

This new U.S. effort in Chile is the initial step in helping that country develop technology to detect and warn of impending disasters by tsunamis.

## J. Fink Dies from Cancer

John Fink, retired chief of the Resources Management Division in Washington, D.C., died of cancer Feb. 2.

Fink served with AID for more than 16 years in management positions. His posts included Vietnam, Yemen, Nepal, Pakistan and Ghana.

Fink is survived by his wife Dolores, daughters Pamela Dixson and Valerie Grimm, sons Michael and John, Jr., stepson Sidney Humphries, and three grandchildren.

Condolences may be sent to Dolores Fink, 6100 Westchester Park Drive, Apartment 617, College Park, MD 20781.

## Benge, Hahn Win Contest

Two Science and Technology Bureau staff members received awards for excellence in technical writing.

Michael Benge and Caldwell Hahn, both of the Office of Forestry, Environment and Natural Resources, were honored during a Feb. 27 ceremony held at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

Benge and Hahn were winners in the Technical Publications Contest sponsored by the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the Society for Technical Communications.

## Bookfair '85 Needs Books

Bookfair '85, sponsored by the Association of American Foreign Service Women and scheduled to open Oct. 18, needs books and is seeking donations.

The Bookfair sells all types of books including fiction and nonfiction, hardcover and paperback, children's titles as well as manuals and reference materials.

Proceeds from the week-long sale benefit a scholarship fund for Foreign Service children and various community projects in the metropolitan area. All donations are tax deductible.

For direct deposit, there are bookbins located in Main State at the garage elevators in the basement, and at the D and 21st Street entrances. Other bookbins can be found in the main lobbies of the State Department Annex, the Foreign Service Institute and USIA.

For further information and/or to arrange for home collection, call Joan McGinley in the bookroom, 223-5796.

The bookroom, located next to the cafeteria in room 1524, is open for sales from 2 to 3 p.m. weekdays, except Wednesday.

## AAPC Holds Training Class

The Afro-American Purchasing Center, Inc. (AAPC), a non-profit corporation established with AID funds in 1964, recently held a one-month procurement and supply management training program at New York University for 20 participants representing 12 countries.

Anthony Polemeni, vice president of AAPC, directed the course. Speakers from AID included Hugh Dwelly, director of the Office of Contract Management, and William Schmeisser, director of the Office of Commodity Management.

AAPC often provides procurement services and training for AID-financed projects.

The course included lectures on purchasing methods, analysis of offers and AID procedures, as well as visits to various procurement-related operations. AAPC plans to expand its training activities to include commodity and equipment procurement.

# Foreign Service Promotions Announced

**T**here were 44 members of AID's Foreign Service nominated for promotion within and into the Senior Foreign Service (SFS).

Because career members of the SFS are commissioned as Consular Officers and Secretaries in the Diplomatic Service of the United States, officers must be nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

The promotions become effective the first pay period after Senate confirmation. With these promotions the Agency's Senior Foreign Service includes nine Career Ministers, 60 Minister-Counselors and 205 Counselors.

One hundred Foreign Service employees in classes FS-9 through FS-2 were on the 1984 promotion list. Their promotions were effective Nov. 11, 1984.

All promotions were recommended by the 1984 selection boards. SFS and senior threshold (FS-1) officers were evaluated by class. Members FS-2 and below were evaluated in rank order by occupation. Each selection board was made up of peers, with one public member.

The following list includes all promotions:

## SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE

**To Career Minister**  
Edgar Harrell  
Jay Johnson  
Alexander Love  
Frederick Schleck

**To Minister-Counselor**  
Henry Bassford  
Robert Bell  
Anthony Cauterucci  
Daniel Chalj  
Robin Gomez

Christian Holmes  
James Holtaway  
Charles Johnson  
Ted Morse  
Barry Sidman

## PROMOTIONS INTO SFS

**To Counselor**  
Frank Almaguer  
James Michael Anderson  
Larry Armstrong  
Gerard Bowers  
Richard Brown  
David Alan Cohen  
Larry Keith Crandall  
Robert Lee Friedline  
Thomas Geiger  
James Graham  
J. Paul Guedet  
Francis Robert Herder  
John Frederick Hicks  
Leland Stanford Hunsaker  
William Janssen  
Arthur Lezin  
Terrence Liercke  
Herbert Miller  
John Miller  
William Miller  
Robert Nachtrieb  
William Oliver, Jr.  
John Popovich, Jr.  
Samuel Rea  
William Pierce Schoux  
Samuel Taylor  
Lee Twentymann  
Bernard Dwight Wilder  
Marcus Winter  
John Woods

## FS-2 to FS-1

Robert Barnes  
William Baucom  
John Bierke  
Antole Bilecky  
Michael Bradley  
Steven Carlson  
Sidney Chernenkoff  
Tony Cully  
Richard Delaney  
David Dulavey  
William Egan  
Rodolphe Ellert-Beck  
James Gingerich  
Joseph Goodwin  
Frederick Guymont  
James Hester  
Howard Hong  
Lance Jepson  
William Johnson  
Wayne King  
Ernest Kuhn  
Arthur Laemmerzahl  
George Lewis  
Linda Lion  
Thomas Lotgren  
Michael Lukomski  
John Martin  
Raymond Martin  
Gerald Nell  
David Painter  
Kenneth Schofield  
Ronald Shafer  
Douglas Sheldon  
Alan Silva  
John Slatery  
Stephen Spielman  
James Stephenson

Alejandro Sundermann  
Robert Van Horn

## FS-3 to FS-2

Russell Backus  
Harry Birnholtz  
Sidney Bliss  
J. Wayne Butler  
Carol Carpenter-Yaman  
William Darkins  
Peter Deinken  
Benedicto Deolazo  
Raymond Dunbar  
John Flynn  
Kurt Fuller  
Steven Freundlich  
Richard Gold  
Julian Heriot, Jr.  
Joan Johnson  
Earl Kessler  
Lewis Lucke  
Richard Mangrich  
Elizabeth Martella  
Cherly McCarthy  
Patrick McDuffie  
Eric Melby  
Paul Novick  
Julia Magruder Owen  
Viviann Pettersson  
Daniel Rathbun  
Barbara Spaid  
Robert Stader  
John Swanson  
Kiertisak Toh  
Abdul Wahab  
John Frederick Wall, Jr.

**FS-4 to FS-3**  
Christine Adamczyk

James Ahn  
Rosalie Fanale  
Jeffrey Lee  
David Leong  
Patricia Lerner  
Ronald Olsen  
Patricia Ramsey  
James Van den Bos

## FS-5 to FS-4

Nishkam Agarwal  
Catherine Gordon  
Celeste Robertson  
Carol Snowden  
Diana Swain  
Shirley Truman

## FS-6 to FS-5

Linda Hooper  
Margaret Miller  
Patricia Ann Zanella

## FS-7 to FS-6

Claudia Cantell  
Barbara Court  
Lori Jo Geylin  
Jessica Prasompetch  
Barbara Smither

## FS-8 to FS-7

Lorraine Jacobs  
Anh My Smith

## FS-9 to FS-8

(Resident Hires)  
Miranda Foti  
Fabiola Rodman  
Rosalinda Webb

## RETIRED

**Marc Barrosse Jr.**, IG/RIG/A/W, auditor, after 19 years

**James Bender**, IG/PPP, auditor, after 24 years

**Granville Bressler**, LAC/CONT, financial operations specialist, after 31 years

**Mary Cacciatore**, PPC/PB/C, secretary typist, after 12 years

**John Clyne**, GC/CP, legal adviser, after 20 years

**Joseph Henry Cope**, S&T/IT/PP, assistant development officer, after 19 years

**Monique Demartin**, FS/COMP, administrative aide, after 18 years

**Lauryn Drengler**, Egypt, accounting financial analyst, after 21 years

**Dolf Droge**, M/PM/TD, special assistant, after 8 years

**Rolland Garner**, Cameroon, controller, after 16 years

**E. Morgan Gilbert**, AFR/PD/SA, project development officer, after 26 years

**Celia Gnatt**, AA/AFR, secretary, after 1 year

**Norman Green**, AFR/RA/TECH, educational development officer, after 20 years

**Michael Guido**, M/PM/TD, employee development officer, after 33 years

**Richard Hiergesell**, M/SER/COM/CPS/R, supervisor international trade specialist, after 18 years

**Clement Irons**, M/SER/MO/PP, administrative officer, after 19 years

**Muriel Johnson**, Thailand, executive assistant, after 23 years

**Frances Jordan**, M/SER/MO/TTM/TS, transportation specialist, after 23 years

**William Leake**, M/SER/MO/PM/PR, offset duplicating press operator, after 27 years

**Frank Mana**, FS/COMP, educa-

# WHERE? IN THE WORLD ARE AID EMPLOYEES

tional development officer, after 21 years

**Sarada Mitchell**, M/SER/COM/NEA, secretary typist, after 28 years

**Ihsan Mogannam**, S&T/IT/PE, assistant development training officer, after 30 years

**Dennis Morrissey**, NE/DP/PL, program economist, after 20 years

**Juanita Nofflet**, ASIA/EA/ISP, assistant program officer, after 9 years

**Raymond Potocki**, M/SER/CM/SO/FSR, contract officer, after 14 years

**Dora Przewlocki**, S&T/IT/RS, clerk typist, after 13 years

**James Russell**, M/SER/MO/RM/BM, FACS management specialist, after 18 years

**Louis Sleeper**, COMP/FS/DS, trade development officer, after 28 years

**William Thom**, M/EM/CAD/FA, accounting technician, after 21 years

**E. Margo Vaubel**, Jordan, secretary, after 21 years

**Wolfgang Vonspiegelfeld**, M/SER/COM/NEA, supervisor international trade specialist, after 6 years

**Leroy Wagner**, Ghana, deputy mission director, after 24 years

**H. Stanley Wills**, Burundi, agricultural development officer, after 7 years

*Number of years refer to AID service only.*

## MOVED ON

**Phyllis Addison**, NE/EMS

**Mildred Bell**, AFR/TR/H

**Abby Bloom**, PPC/PDPR/IP

**KC Thi Dao**, M/PM/FSP

**Brenda Gail Frazier**, FVA/FFP/PO

**Charles Gormly**, PRE/PPR

**Joni Halpin**, COMP/CS/R

**Mary Heffren**, S&T/RD/DA

**Leslie King**, M/PM/LR

**Jacqueline Little**, COMP/CS/R

**Damon Loveless**, M/SER/IRM/TS

**Heather Norris**, NE/TECH/HPN

**Ann Frederick Purcell**, TDP/PEP

**Kathy Radimer**, COMP/FS/LWOP

**Marc Scott**, Honduras

**Peggy Ann Sheehan**, FVA/FFP/II

**Janice Smith**, COMP/CS/R

**Beverly Stroud**, COMP/CS/DS

**Benita Townsend**, AFR/PD/SA

## REASSIGNED

**Robert Archer**, assistant project development officer, FS/COMP, to energy adviser, ASIA/TR/EFE

**Roberta Atkinson**, clerk typist, ASIA/DP, to program operations assistant, SDB/OD

**Ronald Davidson**, foreign affairs officer, AA/XA, to assistant program officer, FS/COMP

**Darrell Dolley**, accounting financial analyst, FS/COMP, to budget officer, M/FM/BUD

**Pamela Johnson**, supervisor social science analyst, NE/TECH/HPN, to social science analyst, S&T/H

**Rufus Long**, program analyst, PPC/

PDPR/SP, to assistant project development officer, Yemen

**Janice Weber**, science/technology adviser, PPC/PB/C, to program officer, PPC/PDPR/SP

**James Wilson Jr.**, assistant human resources development officer, M/PM/TD/PCT, to assistant program officer, NE/MEUR

## PROMOTED

**Marlies Backhaus**, NE/DP/E, program operations assistant

**Joyce Brooks**, M/SER/IRM/PE, management analyst

**Florita Christerson**, LEG/OD, secretary stenographer

**Mary Beth Conley**, M/FM/BUD, budget analyst

**Engene Dwyer**, M/SER/IRM/SM, supervisor computer programmer analyst

**Sylvia Graves**, IG/RIG/A/W, program operations assistant

**Gail Horner**, PRE/ADM, administrative assistant

**Rhoda Isaac**, XA/IASP, public affairs specialist

**Marie Kennedy**, IG/SEC/PSI, clerk

**Elisabeth Kvitashvili**, ASIA/PD/SA, program analyst

**Lawrence Livesay**, M/SER/IRM/WMS, supervisor computer system analyst

**Anthony Mazzoccoli**, S&T/POP/R, clerk typist

**Sharlee McDonald**, AFR/MGT/HRM, administrative officer

**Deborah Meeks**, NE/TECH/AD, secretary typist

**Holly Mensing**, LAC/DR/HN, secretary typist

**John Metelsky**, XA/PR, supervisor public affairs specialist

**Felicia Nanartowicz**, IG/RIG/A/W, secretary stenographer

**Mary Newton**, M/FM/SSD/PS, budget assistant

by Marie Thompson

**I**n southern Mali, near the Molabala sector, lives a farmer named Kadda Dembele. On his small farm he raises crops such as maize, cotton and sorghum. Dembele uses a new fertilizer, phosphate de Tilemsi, which is ground phosphate rock from the Tilemsi deposit in northern Mali and is pleased with the results.

The Malian farmer is one of a group

**"The average maize yield using the phosphate rock increases 50%."**

who are actively participating in the Mali phosphate project, which the AID-funded International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) has been conducting since 1981, in cooperation with the Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER), Bamako, Mali. This project meets one of IFDC's goals—to help developing countries use their own indigenous resources to produce fertilizers rather than import them. AID provides \$4 million a year to IFDC or 40% of its budget.

## Mali Phosphate Rock: Powder With Punch

The IFDC research on Malian farmers' fields, sponsored by the Compagnie Malienne pour le Developpement des Textiles/World Bank, is an outgrowth of the original Mali Phosphate project. The original project covers 10 experiment stations and has been sponsored by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada since 1981.

"I am pleased with the yields from the Tilemsi phosphate rock," Dembele says. "My maize yielded the same number of ears, but they were larger and had more grains than I got with using the complex fertilizer."

Dembele is discovering other advantages of the indigenous Tilemsi phosphate product. "By using phosphate rock there was less drought stress than when I used conventional fertilizer," the farmer explains. A better developed root system occurs when phosphate rock is incorporated more deeply than complex fertilizer applied at first weeding. This enables the root system to penetrate more deeply into the soil, helping to prevent drought stress.

The Malian farmer does not keep

this new-found technology a secret from his neighbors. "Many other farmers from the area come to visit my fields. I show them the difference in yields from phosphate rock and conventional fertilizer," Dembele says.

Dembele accepts the new fertilizer product and conforms to the recommended management practices taught to him by the extension agent and the IFDC agronomist. Although he is used to hand applying the conventional fertilizer after planting, he knows that phosphate rock must be applied prior to plowing and then worked into the soil.

Pierre Rosseau, IFDC tropical agronomist, and his Malian counterparts working on the Mali Phosphate project see good results in the experiments being conducted at experiment stations and on farmers' fields located throughout Mali. "On farmers' fields the average maize yield per hectare using directly applied phosphate rock increases about 50% compared with the yield without phosphate rock and is similar to the yields obtained with the cotton mix (complex fertilizer). Only in the driest areas does the cotton

complex yield better results than the phosphate rock," Rosseau explains.

The researchers are finding that incorporated phosphate rock produces larger ears of maize than does surface-applied conventional fertilizer. Normally, one maize plant produces one to two ears, but those plants growing in the Malian phosphate rock usually yield three ears per plant.

On the phosphate plots, when different rates of phosphate rock are compared with the recommended rate of complex fertilizer, all complementary nutrients are applied at the same rate as the cotton complex mix. The complementary nutrients—nitrogen, potassium, sulfur and boron, particularly—are very expensive, and economic analyses are needed to ensure that substantial savings can be made by using phosphate rock plus complementary nutrients instead of the imported cotton mix. More studies may be needed to assess the needs for all the complementary nutrients and find the least expensive sources.

IFDC is learning from the Mali example and hopes to extend this concept to other nations in Africa wishing to improve their agriculture.

*Thompson is the communications supervisor at the International Fertilizer Development Center*

## Listening To Thailand's Deaf Community

**D**eaf services in Thailand are a relatively new idea. Today, less than 10% of deaf school-age children have access to education through the ninth grade. Pre-school and post-school services still need to be developed by the Royal Thai government.

Reaching the Unreached (RUR), a self-help project in Thailand, now operates to meet the needs of deaf individuals. Developed through the support of the AID mission in Thailand and the International Human Assistance Programs, Inc. (IHAP), RUR works closely with the Thai deaf community.

Although there have been many attempts over the years to address the problems of deaf school-age children, until now deaf persons have not been involved in the planning. The RUR project offers the deaf an opportunity to provide input toward solutions to their own problems.

The deaf community self-help efforts evolved from a group of deaf teachers and one hearing American, Charles Reilly. In 1980 a social club called the Center for Deaf Alumni organized skills and resources to benefit the deaf. A small workshop producing hand-crafted toys and paintings was set up as an income-generating activity.

In July 1981 an AID grant provided seed money which led to the creation of a viable service organization. In addition to offering job counseling and placement assistance, membership outreach, a newsletter on center and community activities and a broadly expanded and now self-sustaining workshop, a seminar program on Thai

Sign Language Research also has been established.

This rapid and significant growth was not without problems. In order to understand and accommodate the changes in the organization and its structure, an intensive one-week seminar in organizational development and management was conducted involving the entire staff of the center. An underlying goal of this project was to help build institutions and encourage leadership within the young deaf Thai community.

RUR was structured to become a worker-managed organization. Work plans, a legal structure, budgeting, personnel projects, and individual responsibilities were explained and determined. Shari Berenbach, a management consultant to the project, said, "It was difficult to establish, for example, a budget policy. We first had to explain in sufficient detail what is a budget and what is a policy." The language was capable of the concepts, but the collective experience of the group was limited.

A common misperception is that sign languages are universal and international. National sign languages exist and are as diverse as national spoken languages. They may differ also in grammar and syntax. The Thai Sign Language has been an unwritten language, which adds to the difficulties of improvement and expansion of educational materials and vocational opportunities. Research to correct this problem is critical to the futures of the 90,000 school-age deaf in Thailand. Although there have been attempts to develop sign manuals—primarily by

hearing individuals, they have been of little use to deaf Thais.

Now, under the direction of deaf researcher Manfa Suwanarat, the Thai Sign Language Research Team is involved in the collection of signs used throughout the deaf Thai community to prepare an accurate dictionary of Thai Sign. International experts in sign language linguistics have already noted the precision and sophistication of preliminary and abridged drafts.

**"A common misconception is that sign languages are universal and international."**

The quality work observed to date has created great interest in the Ministry of Education and the existing schools for deaf. The ministry has indicated that the final dictionary will receive full consideration for adoption as an official text. When the book is available to educators, parents and students, a significant road block for the deaf will be lifted.

Thai deaf leaders are looking forward to an increase in the number of deaf schools, expansion of their educational system up to the college level and the possibility of deaf Thais pursuing individual preparatory work for study abroad.

Also, leaders hope to expand a preliminary "child-find" test program established in 1981 to provide deaf children with early education. Few deaf children arrive at deaf schools until they are seven to nine years old, and they usually have no language skills.

The next major milestone will be the attendance by a deaf Thai delegation to the IX World Congress of the World Federation of Deaf in Palermo, Italy in July. Substantial private support for the delegation of 15 deaf Thais has already been raised.

The World Congress, held once every four years, will provide a good opportunity for the delegation to examine programs operating in other countries. Immediately preceding this congress will be an International Research Symposium in Sign Language Linguistics. Sumanarat will take the entire Thai Sign Research Team to this symposium to hone skills needed for the final production of the dictionary.

AID's support for this project recognizes the potential within the deaf Thai community and the importance of direct support to a largely ignored group.

"This project is ideal from the development perspective," according to IHAP/Thailand Country Director Owen Wrigley. "It contains the seeds for everything—an action-oriented self-help approach and spirit, an institution enroute toward self-representation, and a basic research component producing teaching and reference materials with immense short- and long-term significance."

## MISSION OF THE MONTH

**AID in Sri Lanka**

by Sharon Isralow

**S**ilhouetted against the night, villagers stack small piles of tropical fruit, plucked from southern Sri Lanka's bountiful rain forest, along the roadside for dawn's pick-up by lorry drivers. The drivers will sell the fruit to "mudalalis," or middlemen, who in turn supply markets and stalls throughout the island with farm and forest products.

As the lorries make their journey, almost without warning, the bumpy hill country roads flatten, giving way to northern Sri Lanka's dry, parched plains. Only the occasional coconut or banana tree remind the drivers of the abundant forests and fields on the other side of the hills.

At first glance, one might see Sri Lanka as a tropical paradise. The pear-shaped island about the size of West Virginia, located in the Indian Ocean, offers white beaches, lush rain forests, ancient ruins, and bird sanctuaries. But to those who struggle to make a living there, the island presents both challenge and opportunity.

Sri Lanka has a rich history and a diverse ethnic composition. In 600 B.C., invaders from India landed on the northern part of the island, drove out the aborigines, and established civilization by developing an elaborate irrigation system in the semi-arid land. Under the influence of Buddhism, which spread from India around 240 B.C., the Sinhalese culture was born. Today, the Sinhalese represent nearly three-quarters of Sri Lanka's 15 million people. Tamils, of southern Indian origin, account for about 20% of the island's population.

Before the British ruled the country as the colony Ceylon, it had been under both Portuguese and Dutch control. Ceylon became an independent member of the British Commonwealth in 1948 and in 1972 adopted a new constitution, establishing itself as a

republic under the name Sri Lanka.

Following its independence, the island's government concentrated expenditures on health, education and social programs, sometimes at the expense of economic growth. Consequently, Sri Lanka bears many characteristics of an industrialized nation—its literacy rate of 86% is the second highest in Asia; its life expectancy of 69 years is high for a developing country; its infant mortality rate of 31 per 1,000 and its birth rate of 28 per 1,000 are among the lowest in the less developed countries. But in reality, Sri Lanka is one of the poorest countries in the developing world; its per capita income hovers at \$320 per year. More than half of Sri Lankans depend directly on agriculture for their livelihoods, but vast areas in the north are arid and, unless irrigated, not suitable for farming.

There were a variety of causes for the country's uneven economic progress since independence. During periods when the government emphasized the country's social development, it provided little investment in economic productivity, relying heavily on the public sector for services and economic activity. Furthermore, droughts, inadequate pricing for basic exports, and low agricultural production exacerbated the situation, leading

**"National average rice yields jumped from 49 bushels an acre in 1977 to 70 bushels in 1983."**

to widespread unemployment and huge food deficits.

In 1977, the newly elected government of President J. R. Jayewardene began to focus on the country's dilemma and, recognizing the necessity for accelerating economic growth and employment for its people, began to emphasize policies that reduce state



(above) Settlers move into the revitalized Mahaweli project area. At the sight of a new canal (from left) Norman Pecantry, John Robinson, Travis Canon, all of Zachry-Dillingham, and Gil Haycock, AID's Mahaweli project manager, check the excavation progress.

control and allow a more open economy. Such policies were designed to generate increased food production, employment and a higher standard of living, particularly for the poor. AID, along with other donor nations, multinational development banks and U.N. organizations, has been assisting the government in meeting these goals.

In the late 70's, the AID mission joined with the Jayewardene government in seeking methods to improve agricultural productivity to reduce the importation of cereals. AID's contribution to this story was substantial.



According to Mission Director Frank Correl, "The next period will be one of program consolidation, rather than expanding into a variety of new project areas. AID has been involved in a variety of activities over the past several years, but we are now concerned primarily with the effectiveness of policies and project implementation. A major emphasis will be on strengthening the management and planning capacity of the Sri Lankan government."

The new mission strategy will concentrate resources in three areas: increasing agricultural productivity and incomes; ensuring the effective use of the considerable investments in irrigation construction in the Mahaweli; and building off-farm employment and rural enterprise.

The bulk of resources will go into agriculture. Work will include agricultural research focused on crop diversification; building policy, planning, and management capacities; improving water management; and removing marketing and distribution constraints, explains Correl.

A natural complement to the successful rice research project is the mission's new Diversified Agriculture Research project. This project uses the research stations as well as government and privately operated seed farms to carry out research on a variety of secondary crops including maize, sorghum, peas, beans and oilseeds. The \$11 million project plans to help farmers bring alternative income-earning crops into production and upgrade the private sector's seed production and marketing capabilities.

AID also is working with the Sri Lankan Ministry of Finance and Planning to prepare an overall food and nutrition strategy. Recently completed, in draft, it will influence future development activities in the agriculture sector. The mission now is discussing a follow-up agricultural planning project with the government.



Many Sri Lankans sift for precious and semi-precious stones in the waters and soils of their island known as the "Isle of Gems."

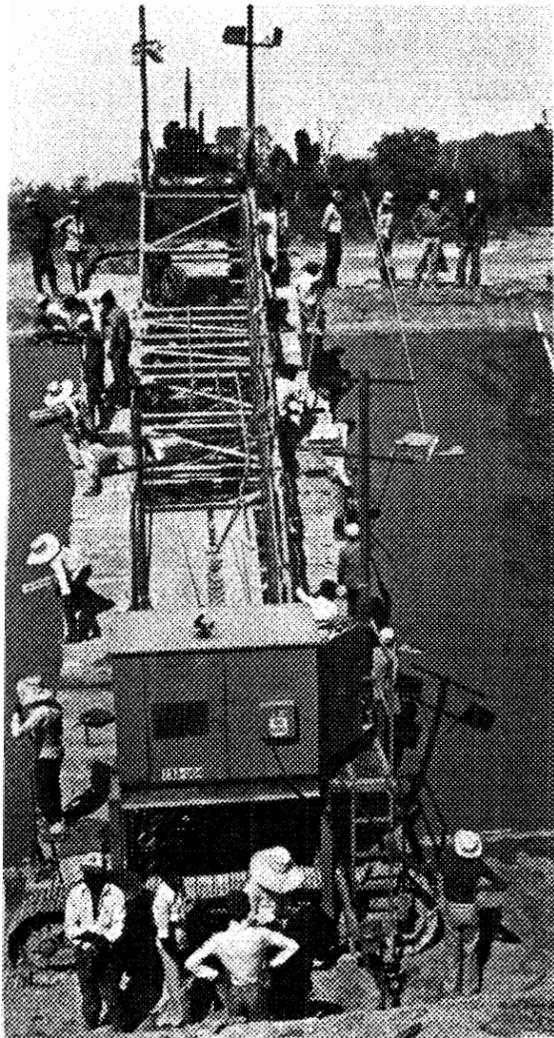
For example, it was on the ground floor of the successfully completed \$3.5 million Rice Research project which assisted the country in decentralizing and strengthening its rice breeding program. The project helped build, equip and staff nine new agricultural research stations. Also, over 200 people received short- and long-term training.

As a direct result of the AID project and related government policy changes, national average rice yields jumped from 49 bushels an acre in 1977 to 70 bushels an acre in 1983.

"The fact that Sri Lanka is now nearly self-sufficient in rice is probably one of the country's most notable achievements in recent years," says Mike Korin, chief agriculture officer.

However, D. Senadhira, director of the country's only research station devoted solely to rice, cautions that more work remains to be done and that Sri Lanka shouldn't expect the hefty yield increases experienced in the past to continue to move upward. He points out that it is increasingly important to bring new lands into cultivation to keep pace with a growing population's needs for food and income. "Otherwise," predicts Senadhira, "Sri Lanka will be importing rice by 1990."

Considering past accomplishments and future needs, the mission in Sri Lanka just reviewed its strategy.



(above) At the ceremony for opening 16 kilometers of canals, Ambassador John Reed (left) symbolically waters a tree as Mission Director Frank Correl watches. In the Madura Oya region, 1,400 farm families will benefit from the new water supply. (left) Sometimes, even at 2 a.m., as many as 300 spectators watch the progress of the construction crews as the canals are carved out of the jungle.

The multi-year P.L. 480 Title I food assistance program, in addition to balance of payments supports, contributes to the Sri Lankan government's ability to plan agricultural strategy, reduce its balance of payments gap, and support agricultural research and rural development. A \$26 million loan in fiscal 1985 to import wheat is helping to secure local currency to support agricultural research as well.

Rural development not only depends on sound government policies, but it also depends heavily on providing water to the dry zone where thousands of landless farmers are being resettled by the government and offered land and opportunity to build their own communities. The Accelerated Mahaweli program, in a sense, recaptures an ancient practice in Sri Lanka where evidence still exists of the sophisticated water storage and irrigation programs dating back to times before the birth of Christ.

The \$2 billion program (called "accelerated" because a 30-year program was compressed to six years) is designed to divert water to four areas in the dry zone, converting lowland scrubland into productive farmlands. Four new dams and headworks, heavily financed by international donors, will regulate water and provide power, explains Correl. Begun in 1977, the program also seeks to address the country's pressing problems of unemployment (currently estimated at 14%), significant underemployment, the need for increased food production, and provision of land for the landless and those dispossessed by the building of the four major dams with their extensive reservoir areas.

AID's role in the Mahaweli package includes: the design and construction of canals and related structures in the project area (located on the left bank of the Madura Oya river) to carry irrigation water from a Canadian-financed and built dam; reimbursement to the government of Sri Lanka for

some of the infrastructure needs in the project area; and an environmental protection project to compensate for some of the less desirable effects of large scale development of an area previously inhabited by elephants and other wildlife and only sparsely by small numbers of people.

These three related efforts build on the results of earlier efforts to attain sufficiency in food and to protect natural resources. The projects represent, by far, the biggest proportion of the mission's bilateral development assistance for Sri Lanka since 1977.

Water supplied as a result of AID's program will irrigate 21,500 hectares of land for 21,500 farm families. The release of water from the first completed length of the canal occurred in October and was marked by a ceremony attended by senior Sri Lankan and U.S. officials and a large number of potential beneficiaries. Some 1,400 settler families now are benefiting from this effort. Canal construction is scheduled to be completed by autumn of 1986.

A \$50 million sector support project reimburses the Sri Lankan government in foreign exchange for a portion of expenses incurred in helping settlers get started in the resettlement area and, according to Gil Haycock, Mahaweli project manager, "helps make the construction project and, indeed, the whole scheme viable." The government uses these funds to construct schools, health posts and access roads. The government provides settlers with timber, roof tiles, a latrine plate and hardware components for hand-dug wells along with a parcel of land for home and farm.

While clearing land assigned to them and working also as contract labor for road and other infrastructure construction, the settlers receive food rations from the World Food Program.

Because the natural habitat of elephants and other jungle animals has been reduced by the Mahaweli devel-

opment, the possibility exists that uprooted elephants might overrun recently settled farm areas and threaten life and property. An environmental impact study, carried out by Tippetts-Abbett-McCarthy-Stratton, resulted in the Mahaweli Environment project to help the Sri Lanka Wildlife Department develop four national parks to provide havens for elephants and other wildlife affected by economic development activities. Thousands of acres of land are being planted with trees for national parks, an effort which will also prevent erosion of fragile soil.

Ric McLaughlin, the mission program officer, points to the importance of the project as a model for the Agency. "We're not just giving lip-service to incorporating environmental concerns in development planning," he stresses. "We're doing something concrete about it." This project also has attracted the attention of the world environment community—letters of commendation were presented by the World Wildlife Fund (U.S.) to President Jayewardene and Administrator McPherson during the president's visit to the United States in June 1984.

The mission is taking a close look at possible future involvement in the Accelerated Mahaweli scheme to make certain that investment and development goals are achieved well beyond the timely completion of construction. "Once water is flowing through the irrigation canal systems, we hope to work closely with the Sri Lankans to redouble our joint efforts and concentrate on such key items as more efficient cropping systems and development of rural private enterprise to make the canals and other construction programs as efficient and useful as possible," emphasizes Deputy Director Bill Schoux.

Another major AID contribution is the \$15.9 million Water Management project, which emphasizes rehabilitation and improved operations and maintenance of existing canals in one of the earliest of Sri Lanka's modern irrigation systems, located in the eastern central portion of the island.

This project is repairing and rehabilitating over 1,200 miles of canals and field channels on the left bank of the Gal Oya. A key element of the project is to help strengthen the Department of Irrigation's administrative capability and develop with the extensive participation of farmers a more comprehensive program of management, operation and maintenance of the irrigation system.

During the project design, the question was how to organize the farmers. "The concept of establishing farmer organizations came out of a preliminary study which revealed a lack of cooperation among farmers, the unpredictability of water delivery and poor relations with the irrigation department," explains Herb Blank, water management project director.

Through cooperation of Cornell University and the Sri Lanka Agrarian Research and Training Institute, graduates of local universities are hired and trained to facilitate establishing farmer organizations. To date, more than 240 farmer organizations are functioning in over 40% of the Gal Oya project area. A recent evaluation shows a stronger working relationship has developed between farmers and irrigation department water managers. It also indicates farmers are sharing water from their field canals and are depending on scheduled water delivery in areas where canals have been rehabilitated.

Initial assessments of the Gal Oya project demonstrate that farmers have been able to boost yields and bring new land into cultivation. When construction and rehabilitation are completed, some 16,000 farm families will benefit. Perhaps more significantly, responsibility for regulating an equitable flow of water is shifting from the government to the farmers themselves.

If water is the force that keeps the wheels of progress moving, then private investment is the economy's galvanizing force. Private enterprise development in Sri Lanka is closely tied to the nation's economic development goals. In fact, the government

(continued on page 12)



(left) The Nation Builders' nursery at Buddankotte provides trees needed for an AID environmental protection project. (right) At a nursery at Kundasala, S. W. Kotagama, environmental program officer for the AID-funded awareness program, and Ric McLaughlin, (left) mission program officer, check the progress of the reforestation effort.

Following is a breakdown by occupational group and class of the 144 Foreign Service members promoted in 1984.

#### Mission Directors, Deputies and Comparable Executive Levels (Backstop 01)

Minister-Counselor to Career Minister: 4  
Counselor to Minister-Counselor: 5  
FS-01 to Counselor: 13  
FS-02 to FS-01: 2

**Total: 24**

#### Program Analysis (Backstop 02)

Counselor to Minister-Counselor: 1  
FS-01 to Counselor: 5  
FS-02 to FS-01: 7  
FS-03 to FS-02: 3  
FS-04 to FS-03: 1  
FS-05 to FS-04: 1

**Total: 18**

#### Administrative Management (Backstop 03)

FS-01 to Counselor: 2  
FS-02 to FS-01: 3  
FS-03 to FS-02: 1  
FS-04 to FS-03: 1

**Total: 7**

#### Financial Management (Backstop 04)

FS-01 to Counselor: 1  
FS-02 to FS-01: 3  
FS-03 to FS-02: 2  
FS-04 to FS-03: 1

**Total: 7**

#### Secretaries and General Clerical (Backstop 05)

FS-05 to FS-04: 1

## Analysis Given for 144 FS Promotions

FS-06 to FS-05: 2  
FS-07 to FS-06: 4  
FS-08 to FS-07: 1  
FS-09 to FS-08: 1

**Total: 9**

#### General Services (Backstop 06) None

#### Administrative/Sub-Professional (Backstop 07)

FS-05 to FS-04: 1  
FS-06 to FS-05: 1  
FS-07 to FS-06: 1  
FS-08 to FS-07: 1  
FS-09 to FS-08: 2

**Total: 6**

#### Audit and Inspection (Backstop 08)

FS-02 to FS-01: 2

**Total: 2**

#### Agriculture (Backstop 10)

FS-01 to Counselor: 2  
FS-02 to FS-01: 4  
FS-03 to FS-02: 9  
FS-04 to FS-03: 1

**Total: 16**

#### Economist (Backstop 11)

FS-03 to FS-02: 2  
FS-05 to FS-04: 1

**Total: 3**

#### Program Management (Backstop 12)

Counselor to Minister-Counselor: 1  
FS-01 to Counselor: 1  
FS-02 to FS-01: 3  
FS-03 to FS-02: 3

**Total: 8**

#### Rural Development (Backstop 14)

FS-03 to FS-02: 1

**Total: 1**

#### Food for Peace (Backstop 15)

Legal (Backstop 85)  
FS-01 to Counselor: 1  
FS-02 to FS-01: 2  
FS-04 to FS-03: 1

**Total: 4**

#### Commodity Procurement and Property Disposal (Backstop 92)

FS-02 to FS-01: 3  
FS-03 to FS-02: 1

**Total: 4**

#### Contract Management (Backstop 93) None

#### Project Development (Backstop 94)

Counselor to Minister-Counselor: 1  
FS-01 to Counselor: 3  
FS-02 to FS-01: 7  
FS-03 to FS-02: 3

FS-04 to FS-03: 2  
FS-05 to FS-04: 1

**Total: 17**

#### Housing, Urban and Community Development (Backstop 20)

FS-03 to FS-02: 3

**Total: 3**

#### Business, Industry and Private Sector (Backstop 21)

Counselor to Minister-Counselor: 2

**Total: 2**

#### Engineering (Backstop 25)

FS-02 to FS-01: 2

**Total: 2**

#### Health, Science, Medical and Population (Backstop 50)

FS-01 to Counselor: 2  
FS-02 to FS-01: 2  
FS-03 to FS-02: 2

**Total: 6**

#### Human Resources, Education and Development Training (Backstop 60)

FS-03 to FS-02: 1

**Total: 1**

#### Public Administration (Backstop 70) None

#### Energy, Environmental, Behavioral Science, and Science and Technology (Backstop 75)

FS-04 to FS-03: 1

**Total: 1**

## Sri Lanka

From page 11, column 4

has been reshaping the economy, keeping its commitment to Sri Lankans' well-being and instituting reforms that pave the way for private investment and export-led growth.

The mission's private enterprise officer, Sandy Shapleigh, explains, "The mission is looking for appropriate opportunities for greater involvement of the private sector in all areas. That is a key pillar of our program."

The centerpiece of the mission's Private Enterprise Promotion project is the Sri Lanka Business Development Center (SLBDC), headed by Anton Balasuriya. SLBDC's approach helps build a human resource base, placing emphasis on management training, entrepreneurial development and policy studies as integral parts of private investment promotion.

Although a relatively new organization, the SLBDC already has made a positive impression on decision makers. "Just recently, we were invited to prepare a position paper for a high-level seminar held to draw up an overall industrial plan," says Nate Bowditch, private sector development adviser. "The presentation was so well-received, that SLBDC—on behalf of the private sector—was invited to sit on a joint public/private committee developing the country's industrial policy. That is a significant achievement."

Such collaboration exemplifies the close working relationship within

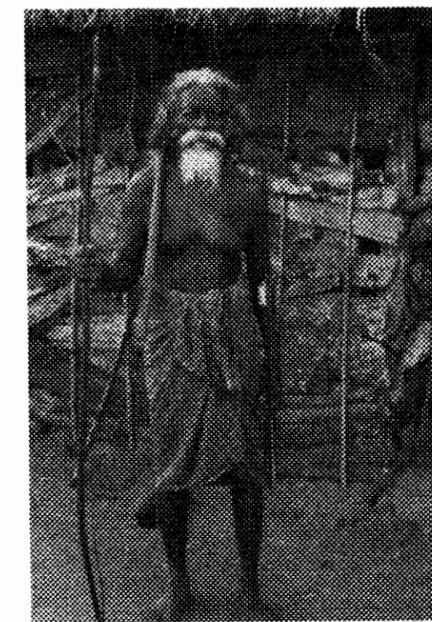
the mission and with counterparts outside AID. "We work very closely with Sri Lankan professionals, both in government and the private sector," says Christina Schoux, chief of the mission's project development office.

Because both the mission and the country are small, much interaction takes place between Sri Lankans and Americans. Mission life can produce close relationships and lasting bonds of friendship with the Sri Lankans and other members of the American community. The American-Sri Lankan Association, for example, sponsors two events a year, the most recent a Valentine's Day Ball. The American Women's Association organizes a steady stream of social activities for women and children, as well as an annual international charity bazaar. Last year, the bazaar drew more than 1,100 people. Another highlight of the year is the Ambassador's Christmas party for American and Sri Lankan members of the official U.S. community, their spouses and children. Last year, an elephant joined the festivities along with Santa Claus, played by Bill Schoux.

For AID mission staff who have worked long hours on a project and need a break, there are a multitude of things to do, including sports and other outdoor activities such as wind surfing and snorkeling. For those who prefer more sedate endeavors, there are the cultural events ranging from concerts by visiting symphonies to movies, lectures and an enthusiastic amateur theater group.

One also can "get away from it all" by sunning or swimming at the beautiful beaches, traveling in the cool, scenic hill country and visiting ancient cultural centers of the country such as the rock fortress at Siggiya and the Temple of the tooth in Kandy, which is visited by Buddhist pilgrims from all over the world.

The island boasts many fine hotels and restaurants with ample meals at reasonable rates. Unusual sights for tourists include Chief Tissahamy and his clan of aborigine hunters who reside in their "veddah" village in one of Sri Lanka's developing national



Veddah Chieftan Tissahamy, a direct descendant of Sri Lanka's original inhabitants, resides in an area designated for preservation.

parks. For \$2 a click, a photographer can capture the memory on film. Chief Tissahamy, who claims to be more than 100 years old, rules over one of the last remaining aborigine clans on the island.

Nationals and visitors enjoy the unique elephant orphanage that now has 16 inhabitants who were saved after being abandoned or injured in the jungle. Another point of interest is Adam's Peak where Adam's foot imprint is supposedly visible. (According to a local legend, when God expelled Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden, he put them in Sri Lanka so they wouldn't suffer too great a culture shock.)

Mission life in Sri Lanka, however, does take some minor adjustments. Snakes are one particular problem; the island is a haven for poisonous varieties. Housing, as well as jobs for dependents, can be scarce at times. Some spouses, however, find part-time work at the embassy or mission offices. On the whole, mission staff enjoy their stay on the island.

The economic growth and development of Sri Lanka continues to be the primary concern of mission staff. The mission's work is rooted firmly in the field, no matter if field means a rural slum or an up-country settlement community. AID involvement in Sri Lanka through its various projects has produced tangible results and proof of progress is evident throughout the country.

*Isralow is the editor of Horizons.*

# AID Loans Spur Kenyan Entrepreneurs

by Judith Ann Knudson

**A** new cash crop has been introduced in Kenya, and now a thousand farmers have begun growing sunflowers which, until recently, were a novelty in the Karaba and Meru regions.

Planting sunflowers was the result of a loan from AID to Oil Crops and Allied Foods, Ltd. (OCAF) which was matched by an equal amount from the Kenya Commercial Finance Corporation (KCFC), a local, essentially private, financial institution.

This project is one of several that are flourishing in Kenya because of AID/KCFC matching loans.

AID's Bureau for Private Enterprise (PRE) working with KCFC, is the instrument providing medium and long-term credit not otherwise locally available to Kenyan entrepreneurs like Allied Foods.

PRE's \$2.5 million loan to KCFC was matched by \$2.5 million in local currency from the corporation's own funds. The \$5 million fund was earmarked exclusively for on-lending to small- and medium-sized private Kenyan agribusiness and light manufacturing enterprises.

**"The United States gets more leverage for each dollar spent as funds committed to AID development goals are matched by AID borrowers."**

Through this agreement, loans are made to small enterprises located in rural areas. They include agribusinesses such as small milling operations for corn and other cereals; sugar cane hauling services from farm to factory; tractor leasing to small farmers, distributors of animal feeds and farm implements, and village bakeries. Light industrial loans include those for a new manufacturing facility for multi-use adhesives and for expansion of a plant for insulated electric cables.

OCAF organizes small farmers to grow and harvest oil seeds, particularly sunflower. The farmers buy high quality hybrid sunflower seed and fertilizer on credit from Allied Foods, receive technical advice from the company's field staff on sunflower production and at harvest, sell their production to OCAF for transport and resale to East Africa Industries, Ltd. (EAI) which produces sunflower oil.

An EAI study in 1981 showed Kenyan milling capacity at only 30% use, supplying 10% of edible vegetable oil consumed. Thus, EAI agreed to guarantee purchase of all OCAF seeds in an effort to substitute previously imported palm oil and fats with locally produced oil to save



**K. S. Patel, founder of Kenby Cables, keeps up with the latest developments in his field and understands that his plant can be further automated.**

a potential \$34 million a year in scarce foreign exchange. Other benefits expected are higher income for about 6,000 small farm families, improved local diets because of the availability of quality sunflower oil and supplemental feed for cattle.

The purchase by OCAF of equipment, storage facilities, raw materials, supplies and operating expenses was made possible by a loan of \$178,500 from AID. This amount was matched by an equal amount from KCFC.

Another example is Kenby Cables, a small firm that manufactures about 20 types of coated copper cables for residential and industrial wiring. The company is located just outside of Kisumu, a sprawling, active agricultural and trading center close to both Uganda and Tanzania.

Kenby's founder, K. S. Patel, saw that as Kisumu grew in size, the demand for cable would grow, too. He began to produce a few of the types more widely used. To satisfy large markets, Patel sought funds from AID/KCFC to purchase additional extrusion machines for the relatively new plant and to stock up on raw materials—copper wire and coating compounds—to avoid supply disruptions. The additional capital also allows Kenby to maintain sufficient supplies of finished wire of the types in greatest demand.

Patel keeps up with the latest developments in his field, such as optic fiber technology, and understands that his plant can be further automated. However, because labor in Kisumu is plentiful and inexpensive, his operation remains labor-intensive.

AID's borrowers, such as KCFC, as well as sub-borrowers, like Patel, are charged fixed commercial market or near-market rates. As a result, the United States is getting more development impact for its dollar. Principal plus interest of 8½% to 13½% is

returned to the U.S. taxpayer. At the same time, the United States also gets more leverage for each dollar spent as funds committed to Agency development goals are matched by AID borrowers.

The KCFC sub-loans are in term from four to six and one-half years. Thus far, 78% are for new businesses, the remainder for expanding enterprises.

Ways in which increased private competition may achieve a number of development goals, including that of opening tight government-controlled industries, is exemplified by another sub-loan from the AID/KCFC fund.

The Mumias Sugar Company, 40 miles northwest of Kisumu and about 30 miles from the Ugandan border, is surrounded by about 25,000 privately owned fields. The lots, each about



**Oil from locally grown sunflower seeds is replacing imported palm oil.**

four acres, are all within a 20-mile radius of the factory and supply it with sugar cane.

The company, a government-owned facility, can produce 6,000 200-lb. bags of granulated sugar each 24-hour operating day during 10 months of the year. The plant is closed the remaining two months for maintenance and repair.

Ima Hauliers, the sub-borrower, is one of the few private sugar cane haulers under contract to this government-owned plant. The hauling company has 31 tractor haulers; each carries about 30 to 35 tons of cane a day to the factory. Ima is paid twice a month on a tonnage-of-cane delivered basis.

M. C. Bhayani, a company director, says the equipment uses many tires a year, all supplied by Firestone's Nairobi plant. Most of the tractors are manufactured by U.S. firms—Ford, Caterpillar and John Deere.

An AID/KCFC loan for about \$75,000 paid for nearly half of the cost of the equipment needed. Ima Hauliers paid the remainder and provided working capital.

All sub-borrowers from the AID/KCFC funds are required to keep written records for inspection by KCFC. An additional AID grant for \$250,000 will expand training of staff in business advisory services, improve the corporation's agribusiness credit evaluation capacity and expand services at its regional and branch offices. The business advisory services help borrowers—frequently "mom and pop" operations—modernize their management control, operating and accounting practices.

Views differ on whether banks should be providing these services. Some say that whereas small business advisory services are definitely needed, it is not a bank's usual responsibility or function to provide them. In fact, services are costly and time-consuming.

But experience shows that once entrepreneurs pay back loans and are no longer required to keep formal records, they continue to keep records. What's more, they become loyal, long-term customers of the bank.

With better management and book-keeping skills learned from the advisory service, small firms are able to expand their operations and develop into strong, efficient enterprises.

The AID/KCFC loans also bring new full-time jobs—at least 678 are expected from the first 50 sub-loans—and increase incomes to rural communities. It is estimated that as many as 128,000 rural Kenyans will benefit indirectly from this program. Benefits will accrue from new cash crops, improved growing techniques, and farm-related services. Furthermore, others will have an opportunity to learn new skills in manufacturing, tractor and hauler maintenance and repair, chemical compounding, bakery operation and marketing.

*Knudson is an investment officer in AID's Bureau for Private Enterprise, Office of Investment.*



"Historically, the black family has been a unit and black people have been survivors," Carol Randolph, reporter for WDVN Channel 9, told an audience of approximately 200 employees Feb. 6.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the 1985 Black History Month celebration in the Dean Acheson Auditorium, Randolph said, "Even during the time of slavery, there were heroic efforts on the part of black fathers and mothers to save their children by giving up their own lives.



Speaking at the opening ceremony of the 1985 Black History Month, Carol Randolph told the audience, "The black family has progressed through tough times."

After slavery, families banded together to build for future generations."

Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris, in his opening remarks, spoke of the Afro-American family as being a strong institution—withstanding pressures few others could survive. He said, "The Afro-American family has played a unique and remarkable role in American history. Early successful Black families and their achievements presented role models which have guided and motivated subsequent generations." Morris suggested that strengthening and preserving the black family should be high on America's agenda.

Randolph also spoke about black family survival and emphasized the need to promote education, as well as ethical and moral values. "The black family has progressed through tough times and if black people continue to do those things which are positive, I think they will overcome."

In terms of addressing some of the crises which the black family now faces, Randolph suggests writing about the positive attributes of the race, working with young mothers and children, strengthening education and good moral values, and maintaining positive self-esteem.

During the question and answer period, Randolph responded to questions about black crime, test scores of black children and parenting skills. "There is a need," she said, "for more cooperative efforts—to watch out for each other, work more closely with youngsters and provide positive role models for children."

Randolph was chosen as the opening speaker because of her work in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan community and her interest in issues which affect the black family.



In celebration of Black History Month, Melvin Deal's African Heritage Dancers and Drummers entertained employees of AID and the State Department on Feb. 11.

**DIAMOND DESIGNATED DIRECTOR**

Dennis Diamond, former special assistant to the director, Office of Equal Opportunity Programs (EOP), was designated acting director of EOP on Jan. 14.

Diamond worked from 1978-1981 for the Community Services Administration (CSA) in the Office of Civil Rights where he specialized in employment discrimination law under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and the law covering nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs. His experience at CSA included policy

development, advocacy (representing CSA in administrative hearings), and discrimination and complaint processing.

He joined EOP in April 1982 to manage AID's complaints processing system and to reduce the backlog of complaints, a task which virtually has been completed.

Diamond received a bachelor of arts degree in history from Marquette University in 1975 and his jurisprudence degree from Antioch School of Law in 1979.

—Voncile Willingham

**Nyle Brady**

From page 5, column 4

applied for was at Cornell," he says. "I really haven't had any burning ambition to go beyond and do more at one time than at another. I have more or less accepted opportunities as they came along. I have a very strong feeling for service. I don't think there's really any way one can be happy without serving others. And, I don't believe that there's any way that you can help others without helping yourself. So those two things interacting together have been my philosophy. I have no grand designs telling me 'I have to do this, I have to do that.' I'm quite satisfied with the opportunities that AID gives me, and I'm looking forward to continuing the work as long as circumstances permit."

Brady's desire for service extends beyond the office. An active member of the Church of Latter Day Saints, Brady devotes some of his spare time to charitable work carried out by his church. This has included helping Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees become established in America by collecting clothing furniture and other household goods to help them set up their homes. These efforts have also included teaching the refugees English and how to prepare American foods.

On the personal side, Brady is a devoted family man. "I got married when I was just a kid," he relates, referring to his wedding two weeks shy of his sixteenth birthday. Brady calls his wife Martha "a real gem." He says, "She's been a guiding light, help-

ing me to do what I've done. She has helped put quality in my life, and into the lives of others."

The parents of two sons and two daughters, the Bradys now have 20 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The Brady clan gathers in a



Senior Assistant Administrator Nyle Brady (right) visits the International Rice Research Institute with M. S. Swaminathan, director general of IRRI.

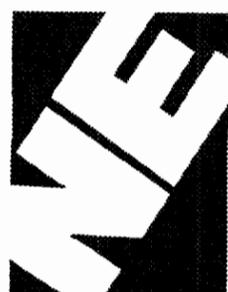
Colorado mountain cabin annually for family reunions. "It's kind of nice," Brady says, "because we can't get around to see all of them, and even if we could, they wouldn't see each other."

"My family has always been the center of my life," Brady notes. "As a human being, one of my primary responsibilities is to help my family members realize their potential. This involves instilling the values of education, hard work and responsibility toward others in our children and grandchildren. This is a lifelong task, and as a saying goes, 'no success can compensate for failure in the home.'"

In his spare time, Brady has few leisure pursuits. "I enjoy fishing and photography, especially during my trips out west each summer. I used to play tennis, but that has gone by the way-side. One of the areas of my life I'm not very proud of is that I don't have too many hobbies. My nights and weekends are spent working most of the time."

With a solid record of achievements behind him though, one can't quarrel with his recipe for success. A respected professional with a loving family, Brady illustrates a successful blend of intellect, drive and warmth.

Mahan is a senior writer/editor in the Bureau for External Affairs



The success of a pilot diarrheal disease control project in Egypt has encouraged the Egyptian government, with AID assistance, to begin the development of a more comprehensive child survival program.

The pilot project, which resulted in a 40% reduction in child deaths due to diarrhea in several rural districts, led to the adoption of a national oral rehydration program aimed at reducing the mortality rate by 25% for children under age three.

This effort is now being expanded to eliminate some of the other major causes of child mortality in Egypt. Other concerns stem from the facts that polio and tetanus continue to kill Egyptian children at an alarming rate, improper immunization practices contribute to Egyptian children suffering from one of the highest prevalences of Hepatitis B in the world, and, even though adequate quantities of food are available, serious malnutrition of infants and children persists.

Additional components of the package will emphasize immunization, iron fortification of wheat and mass media education programs that have proven effective and popular in the pilot diarrheal disease control project.

—Kristin Loken

**RESEARCH TACKLES ARID LAND PROBLEMS**

Joint research projects such as the Cooperative Arid Lands Agricultural Research program (CALAR) bring Egyptians and Israelis into direct contact on problems of mutual concern.

The five-year CALAR program, now in mid-term, is designed to solve problems associated with arid land



**The pilot diarrheal disease control project is being expanded to keep children healthy and to eliminate some of the other major causes of child mortality in Egypt—including polio, tetanus and Hepatitis B.**

agriculture through joint Israeli and Egyptian research.

Research activities include use of saline water, improvement of arid land forages and animals, and production of industrial crops which can be grown under arid conditions. The project was planned as a five-year program, with \$5 million life-of-project AID funding and about \$1 million each from Egypt and Israel as in-kind contributions. As the prime contractor, San Diego State University Foundation

provides overall project coordination.

The past year was marked by several noteworthy program achievements which included:

- The first CALAR Scientific Workshop was held at San Diego State University, Calif., in June. Prominent project scientists from both countries met with experts from the United States to discuss progress in experiments, exchange ideas and encourage personal interactions.
- Two Egyptian graduate students

received scholarships from Ben Gurion University in Israel and are studying saline water irrigation techniques along with CALAR program scientists.

- A mid-term evaluation was conducted by a team of American agricultural experts who recommended a three-year continuation of the program.

Research successes included the completion of a two-year salinity survey for irrigation drainage canals in the El-Bousseily region of the Nile Delta by the CALAR salinity team. For the first time, a quantitative understanding of the seasonal salinity patterns in irrigation water will allow planning and selection of crops to maximize yield in this potentially productive region of Egypt.

In addition, new specific agro-management procedures have been developed in Israel which permit commercial yields of tomatoes using water with more than 3,000 parts per million (ppm) of dissolved salts. By irrigating with fresh water (less than 500 ppm) during early sensitive stages and then switching to brackish water and irrigating more often, several tomato varieties achieved commercial yields.

Other research successes included:

- A salt-resistant melon variety which was identified for use in the CALAR breeding program.
- The CALAR Salinity program in Israel acquired seeds of the salt-resistant melon from the French Agricultural Research Institute and sent them to Egypt to be incorporated into their own breeding program.
- In spite of low rainfall, the experimental rangelands being established by the CALAR Fodder Production program near Fouka, Egypt are in good condition. This winter 60,000 additional saltbush seedlings will be planted, and on-site nurseries will be established to provide 100,000-200,000 seedlings for research.

—Gary W. Bittner



The first annual report on AID's Private Sector Revolving Fund was sent to Congress by Administrator McPherson in January. The report lists eight loans (totaling \$14.5 million—each acting as a catalyst for additional funds from private lenders and Third World businesses.

The revolving fund was established by Congress in November 1983 as a self-replenishing mechanism for Bureau for Private Enterprise (PRE) investments. After reaching a \$60 million level, the fund will be sustained by payments of principal, fees and interest (at near market rates), as well as return on investment of reflows in government securities. Because the fund's first loan was not approved until April 1984, no build-up of reflows has occurred.

The loans are designed to stimulate the start up and expansion of small Third World businesses in agro-industry, health, rural manufacturing

and commercial technology.

The portfolio includes projects in Thailand, Indonesia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, the Caribbean and Morocco. Six loans went to banks and other intermediate financial institutions (IFIs). Two went directly to indigenous enterprises.

The annual report noted that PRE loans to IFIs resulted in especially high leveraging for AID funds.

The report stated that the portfolio complied with Congress' mandate that projects be innovative, have a demonstrated effect, have the potential to increase employment and promote the use of appropriate technology, and support small entrepreneurs.

Four revolving fund loans use the "collateral account" mechanism devised by PRE to avoid the foreign exchange risk involved in borrowing dollars over the long-term. AID puts the loan proceeds in the borrower's account in an offshore bank. The proceeds are then used, through standby letters of credit, to guarantee a portion of local currency mobilized for loans to small businesses.

Projects covered by the report are:

- A \$2.5 million loan and \$750,000 grant to the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), Seattle, Wash., to promote the production and marketing of U.S. health products by local firms in Thailand and Indonesia for low-income users.
- Separate loans of \$1.4 million each to two private Ecuadorian institutions to provide small- and medium-sized enterprises in agriculture financing for trade.
- A \$2.5 million loan and \$50,000 grant to the newly formed Mah-Boonkroong-RFM Co., Bangkok, Thailand, to help build Thailand's first modern, privately-owned meat processing plant, a project which includes extension services to about 2,000 small farmer/suppliers.
- A \$1.2 million loan to Caribbean Basin Corp., a U.S. venture capital firm, to identify and develop projects in the Caribbean area benefiting small- and medium-sized enterprises in agribusiness, health and non-traditional exports.
- A \$2 million loan and \$50,000 matching grant to Banco de Desarrollo Finado to provide credit and export expertise to smaller non-traditional

exporters in the Dominican Republic to market their products through a local export trading company.

- A \$1 million loan and \$50,000 grant to help Subproductos de Cafe, a Costa Rican firm, expand its recycling operation in which coffee wastes are converted to animal feed and other commercial by-products.
- A \$2.5 million loan and \$50,000 grant to Compagnie Marocaine de Credit et de Banque (CMCB), a privately-owned Moroccan institution, to mobilize credit for small exporters.

Assistant Administrator Neal Peden returned in late January from a three-week tour of Asia where she met with local and U.S. business leaders as well as government officials.

PRE is discussing plans for a second session of its training course on the role of the private sector in development later this year. The first session, conducted by PRE and the Office of Training at Hagerstown, Md. in December, was considered highly successful by the participating AID officers from the field and Washington.

—Douglas Trussell



Municipal and agricultural wastes in urban areas throughout the developing world are increasing health hazards, environmental damage and costs of disposal.

The problem is made worse by the fact that with growing urbanization, municipal and agricultural residues in developing countries are changing from predominantly fruit and vegetable wastes, which are largely biodegradable, to cellulosic wastes and solid organics. As this happens, the energy and nutrient values of these wastes is lost.

Increases in population and extensive building programs have placed a strain on traditional disposal sites. Beautiful agricultural villages designed for smaller populations now have 10 times more people, and the increase is evidenced by mounds of municipal and agricultural wastes. As a result, many non-traffic areas, including small parks, have become virtual dump sites.

AID's Office of the Science Advisor in collaboration with Dynatech R/D Company in Cambridge, Mass., addressed the feasibility of introducing resource recovery initiatives into traditional systems.

A practical solution to energy recovery from combined municipal and agricultural residues in a developing country is the implementation of small scale "controlled landfill" type systems. Controlled landfilling is a term used to describe the predesigned and managed anaerobic digestion of combined agricultural residues to produce both fuel gas (biogas) and a valuable humus-like soil conditioner. This technology requires no extensive hardware and can degrade a variety of agricultural or municipal waste materials.

Dynatech, which has investigated



Increases in population and extensive building programs in less developed countries are placing a strain on traditional disposal sites.

various applications of this concept in the United States, extended this concept to 10 countries from the Middle East to South America to Asia. In each country a local participant researcher, using local agricultural wastes, developed simple, low cost techniques for converting waste materials to methane. The results demonstrated that a wide variety of waste material can be cheaply and effectively converted to locally usable fuel gas.

In addition to the internal laboratory efforts in each country, a conference in Boston on Oct. 31 brought together the researchers to share the results of their work. All felt that such simple,

indigenous technology could make a significant contribution to solving the growing refuse problem.

Perhaps the most exciting aspect of this work is the ease with which such a concept, producing both fuel gas and a soil composting residue, can fit into small scale entrepreneurial niches in developing countries. The technology does not need large amounts of capital and can merge into existing collection practices. The flexibility of the approach not only addresses the problems of waste hazards, but also can result in both new products and opportunities for local self-improvement.

—Miloslav Rechcigl, Jr.



At the Regional Title XII Seminars held in late January at the University of Nebraska and Pennsylvania State University, AID and BIFAD

staff met with faculty and administrators of some 50 universities to develop preliminary planning strategies for fiscal 1986.

Representatives of the four AID geographic bureaus presented an overview of regional development strategies in agriculture and rural development. They identified development assistance projects of potential interest to Title XII institutions included in the fiscal 1986 Annual Budget Submissions.

Two university consortia, the Mid America International Agricultural Consortium at the Nebraska sessions, and the Southeast Consortium for International Development at the Penn State meeting, made presentations on projects that illustrated the type of problems encountered and lessons learned in implementation of BIFAD projects.

AID personnel from the Offices of Contract Management, Financial Management, and the Inspector General joined in a special one-day session on contracts, grant administration, financial management and audits.

The BIFAD staff described current initiatives which include formulating an education and training strategy, organizing a foreign language training program, establishing an evaluation plan for Title XII activities, planning workshops on project design and implementation, and guiding the development of possible "Memoranda of Understanding" between AID and eligible Title XII universities.

BIFAD chairman E. T. York also outlined BIFAD's efforts in generating public awareness of foreign assistance.

—John Shields



"Food aid, in general, finally has begun to receive international recognition as a development tool," FVA Assistant Administrator Julia Chang Bloch told representatives of the FVA Bureau who met in New Delhi, Jan. 6-11, for the Asia regional Food for Peace Conference.

Attending the conference were all Asia Food for Peace officers and selected program officers, economists, foreign service nationals and personnel from CARE, Catholic Relief Services and the Cooperative League of the United States.

In welcoming participants to the conference, Bloch noted that the visibility of AID and of the food aid programs, in particular, has increased markedly in recent months. Concurrently, support for P.L. 480 remains high in Congress.

"In the past, academics and journalists have viewed P.L. 480 as a blunt instrument, with no view of its developmental impacts," Bloch said.

"Today, those arguments of massive disincentive effects are largely discredited."

Bloch noted that within AID, many missions now administer food aid programs which are comparable in volume to the level of development assistance (DA) programs. "Food aid is not an inherently weaker resource," she said. "It is, however, like any cash resource—it's how you program it that makes the difference."

Responding to Bloch's remarks, field representatives from the missions and the private and voluntary organizations (PVOs) concurred in the role, value and worth of the P.L. 480 program. Considering the 30-year history of U.S. food assistance, speakers felt that now is the time to rethink many of the old procedures to minimize the remaining criticisms of food assistance, in general, and administration of the P.L. 480 program, in particular.

During the conference particular attention was paid to the problems and progress in food assistance during the last four years. Participants also discussed the simplification in Regulation 11 of the *Federal Register* (which

governs P.L. 480 Title II programs) and recent changes in Food for Peace personnel and management.

The conferees prepared a memorandum for the Administrator which includes the following recommendations on the Food for Peace program:

- Because food aid is an important and stable resource, it should, in most circumstances, be viewed as important as DA in promoting development objectives.
- If policy change can occur at various levels—not just on the macro-level—then it is evident that P.L. 480 is likely to be most effective in promoting mid- or sectoral-level policy change which should influence the assessment of P.L. 480 programs.
- P.L. 480 should play a valuable role by helping to institutionalize policy change.
- The conferees strongly endorsed the policy of partial monetization of P.L. 480 commodities. The proceeds raised should be used to provide complementary inputs to enhance the developmental impact of food aid projects. (This policy is currently being negotiated between the member agen-

cies of the Development Coordination Committee Food Aid Subcommittee.)

- A small percentage of the Title II programs operated through PVOs should be reserved for locally-approved experimental programs.
- Multi-year programming of Title II commodities should allow for more coherent and effective implementation of the Title II program. There was unanimous support for increasing the use of complementary non-food resources with Title II programs to improve their influence.

India mission director Owen Cylke welcomed participants on the opening day of the conference. During the week-long event, participants also heard from Sen. Larry Pressler (R-SD), who was traveling in India, Asia Bureau Assistant Administrator Charles Greenleaf and Indonesia mission director Bill Fuller.

A number of India representatives were in attendance on the final day of meetings for "India Day," a time reserved to discuss the P.L. 480 program in India.

—Lori Forman

# AER

A tropical storm which caused havoc to Cape Verde, ironically, has brought some benefits to this nation with a population of 310,000.

The storm, which lashed into the Cape Verde Islands in mid-September, caused severe damage to property and took 29 lives. Some of the islands received more than 20 inches of rain

over a two-day period causing land slides in the mountain regions which destroyed numerous homes built on the hillsides. The storm disrupted electrical service and damaged schools, clinics, roads and approximately 1,200 houses.

The positive aspects of the tropical storm were that the rains were of such magnitude in the normally arid islands that the crop production outlook for the current harvest season is good. And, the forecast for the country's bean production is reported to be the best in years, according to Thomas

Ball, AID representative.

AID's Watershed Management project, which is integrated with the P.L. 480 Title II program to build small dams, proved to be effective in reducing water runoff and water-logged soil erosion.

The increased production will be a marked departure from last year's bean

crop output which was severely reduced by drought conditions throughout the small nation of 10 islands. In fact, AID provided P.L. 480 emergency relief in fiscal 1984 which included 2,200 metric tons of pinto beans at a cost of \$1 million.

—William James



AID provided emergency food assistance of 2,200 metric tons of pinto beans at a cost of \$1 million to the Cape Verde Islands.

# IG

Mission personnel in an Asian country recently experienced significant losses from the pouch mail system. Even though personnel made inquiries into the losses and gathered information, the situation was not reported immediately to the AID mission director or to the regional inspector general (IG). It was estimated that several hundred packages, valued at thousands of dollars, were involved.

Following notification, an inspector visited the mission for a preliminary inquiry. He then dusted the contents of several pouch packages with an invisible florescent powder and resealed them.

After one of the powdered boxes disappeared, the hands and clothes of several AID communication and records employees were examined under ultraviolet light. The powder became visible on the hands and clothing of those who had handled the contents of the sealed package.

A follow-up search found that a senior foreign service national employee possessed several hundred

dollars worth of items from one day's mail. Three other local employees also were implicated in the mail thefts.

As a result, the senior employee was suspended pending termination; the employment of two other employees was terminated; and action against a fourth employee is pending.

This case is an example of efforts by the inspector general's investigators to protect AID employees as well as the integrity of AID's financial resources and property. The earlier a report of potential wrongdoing is received by the IG, the faster an illegal activity can be stopped.

Agency employees are requested to be alert to irregularities and to report suspicions of illegal activity promptly to the Office of the Inspector General.

—Richard Howard

*Help combat fraud, waste and abuse. Use the AID Inspector General hotline to report theft or misuse of AID resources: (703) 235-3528 or P.O. Box 9664, Arlington Post Office, Rosslyn Station, VA 22209.*

# ASIA

Basic changes in management methods used by the Asia Bureau and other sections of the Agency were examined at the Second Asia

Regional Workshop for Project Development Officers (PDOs) and Engineers held Jan. 27-Feb. 1 in Pattaya, Thailand.

Significant changes include decentralization of authority for project approval and implementation; reduced staffing levels in missions and Washington; advanced technology (computers and word processors); improved relationships between AID and host countries; increased use of loan vs. grant funds; and merging roles of AID staff.

Topics ranging from procurement issues and additional implementation authority to career development and use of computers were discussed in working group panels.

Participants also discussed the new procedures for Project Identification Document (PID) review and approval, which envision AID/W consideration of new projects based on short narratives to be included in the Annual Mission Work Plan. These project ideas would be reviewed during Program Week, the Asia Bureau's annual review of mission programs during

the past year and plans for strategy implementation in the coming year. During Program Week, the Asia Bureau either rejects a project, delegates authority to the field mission to approve a PID, or reserves PID approval for AID/W. The working group recommended that AID/W retain PID approval authority.

The PDOs and engineers recommended that missions be allowed to request ad hoc delegation for PID approval when appropriate. The PDOs also noted that the PID review process in AID/W was more focused and took less time.

A more systematic and consistent approach for career development was seen as necessary to improve professionalism, provide incentives and opportunities for promotion, and increased job satisfaction within the project development and engineering backstop codes.

Recommendations covered more training in fields relevant to the PDOs and engineers (such as private enterprise); assignment modifications (greater tour flexibility, job titles based on seniority and experience); and greater attention paid to Foreign Service Nationals.

Items discussed and planned follow-up actions will be issued soon.

For information call Hasan Hasan, ASIA/PD/ENGR, 632-7367.

—Mary Beth Allen

## SPEAKERS CIRCUIT

Administrator M. Peter McPherson traveled to New York to discuss AID's strong commitment toward the continued involvement of Private and Voluntary Organizations (PVOs) in U.S. development assistance efforts. McPherson, meeting with the International Executive Committee on Jan. 22, gave an overall view of AID's relief efforts in Africa.

The Administrator met with the Iowa Pork Producers Association to discuss AID's progress toward a new Green Revolution for the dry regions of the world—especially Africa. The address took place in Des Moines on Jan. 23 at the Pork Producers annual convention. McPherson also met with the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce to speak on AID's role in Africa.

On Jan. 28, the Administrator spoke at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C. on the science and technology efforts of AID and gave a brief summary on AID's programs.

Other speakers:

John White, special assistant

in the Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination, met with a group from the Close-Up Foundation to explain AID's focus and to discuss the problems in Africa. White met with the group of mostly high school juniors and seniors in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 14.

Hunter Farnham, deputy director of the Interagency Task Force on the African Food Emergency, spoke at a White House briefing entitled "The Politics of Famine: What Should Americans Do In Ethiopia?" Farnham also participated on Jan. 24 on a panel where he discussed "What the U.S. Government is Doing."

Jim Kelly, deputy director of the Interagency Task Force on the African Food Emergency, participated in a panel discussion on Capitol Hill, Jan. 29. The audience, made up of congressional staffers, was presented information on policy issues affecting U.S.-African relations.

—Molly Dendon



Finding ways to strengthen aid in developing countries was a priority item at the annual meeting of the Development Assistance

Committee (DAC) held recently in Paris.

The U.S. delegation, lead by Administrator McPherson, joined with representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the U.N. Development Program to focus on making the response to the economic and social crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa more effective.

Although it was noted that bilateral aid and multilateral development lending help support and stabilize many developing countries facing acute economic and social problems, it was agreed that more effectively coordinated aid is required to help African countries overcome both short- and long-term obstacles to development.

DAC members reviewed current efforts to improve coordination as a means of achieving greater aid effectiveness. It was recognized that recipient governments must be at the center of coordination and play the leading role in initiating and sustaining effective arrangements. Members welcomed the efforts by the World Bank to increase the number of Consultative Groups, strengthen the aid coordination functions of these groups and promote local in-country coordination.

DAC members agreed on the requirement to promote long-term development and reform, particularly for agricultural production. However, the United States noted that AID was already planning a program to support African policy reforms and thus was not in a position to contribute to a new fund for the same purpose.

In drought affected African countries, DAC members are providing substantial amounts of food and other emergency assistance—either directly or through international institutions and non-governmental organizations. Pledges of food aid provided by DAC members during 1984 exceeded three million tons.

Donors asked the international institutions to continue to provide current information on requirements for food and other assistance and indicated their readiness to provide additional assistance to ensure that aid reaches the most needy people.

—John White

## FROM WID

In the past decade, the women in development issue has gained increasing acceptance within the development community. Within AID it is recognized as an important economic issue which can help increase the potential for success in the Agency's project portfolio. The Agency now is implementing a number of strategic measures to integrate WID concerns in bureau and mission strategies.

The soon to be published *1984 Report to Congress on Women in Devel-*

*opment* examines AID's efforts during the last several years to design and implement women in development activities in five principal areas—agriculture; employment and income generation; education and participant training; energy and resource conservation; and water, health and sanitation. Based on analyses of policy trends and field project information provided by all missions and bureaus, the 1984 report updates information submitted to Congress on a biennial basis and should serve as a benchmark by which the Agency can measure future progress in integrating women in development in less developed countries (LDCs).

The following highlights from the report indicate a number of emerging trends and provide guidance for planning WID activities:

Experience has proven that agricultural assistance programs must reach women if projects are to achieve the objectives of increasing agricultural production and raising rural incomes. One successful method appears to be AID's farming systems approach, with its focus on the multiple enterprises of the small farm household.

Since the farming systems approach has the potential of addressing gender concerns within the household, it is more likely to consider the needs of women. In Rwanda, for example, where more than 70% of all agricultural activities are performed by women, the Farming Systems Improvement project will put major emphasis on serving women farmers and employing women extension agents.

Efforts which improve women's access to agricultural development services—particularly extension and promotion, training, agricultural credit and dissemination of technologies that help alleviate the burden of many of women's chores such as fetching water and food processing—are important to agricultural projects.

A successful example of this is the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean's (LAC) regionally-funded Appropriate Technology for Women project which has been underway since 1979 in Bolivia and Ecuador. This project was expanded to eight other Latin American countries in 1983.

Women are entering the labor force in unprecedented numbers. Much of the work available to women, however, remains low-paying, and employment opportunities are extremely limited. Increasingly, women are turning to self-generated employment in the informal sector. All four regions support projects to improve employment and incomes of women by providing appropriate skills training programs, practical management training, and accessible credit and marketing programs.

While the Asia projects are not specifically designed for women, they provide good examples of how projects, which meet the needs of small entrepreneurs in general, can be successful in assisting women. For instance, as reported by the mission, 60% of borrowers in the Indonesia Provincial Area Development projects I and II are female.

Africa and Near East (NE) missions also report several projects that provide skills training for women. These



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include the Djibouti Vocational Training for Adults project, where two-thirds of the participants are women; the Vocational Training for Productivity project in Egypt; and the Morocco Industrial and Commercial Job Training for Women project. The two NE projects are particularly noteworthy because they include a job placement service.

Limited educational opportunities reduce the social and economic options of women in LDCs and also reduce the potential socioeconomic returns of developing countries' investments in education. The number of children enrolled in primary schools in LDCs has increased markedly, but neither the goal of universal primary education for girls and boys, nor the goal of equal access to primary education for both sexes has been realized.

AID projects try to eliminate various restrictions to girls' education through school construction, curricula development and teacher training programs, as well as participant training programs which ensure substantial female participation.

Specific examples include the Improved Efficiency of Learning project in Liberia, which is developing teaching materials for primary schools that provide positive role models for girls, and the National University of Lesotho project, where lifelong adult education projects are being developed for a student audience that is over 50% female.

In Asia, several missions have developed innovative means for motivating women to become educated and convincing governments to nominate qualified women for participant training. In Bangladesh, for example, a special pilot project scholarship program was established under the Family Planning project to enroll 3,000 girls in 22 secondary schools. Improving female access to education by increasing the number of schools in rural areas is being implemented in Egypt through the Basic Education project which also employs females in the actual building and construction of 620 primary and preparatory schools.

In most LDCs, women and girls are

responsible for providing their household energy needs. Projects that improve energy supplies can free women's time for other responsibilities. AID's reforestation projects and fuel stove projects, in particular, are good examples of activities which can provide major benefits to women.

Four missions in the Africa region are currently funding energy projects that affect women. For example, the Gambia Forestry project is designed to increase the production and efficient use of wood products and thus avoid deforestation. The women's component consists of providing fences, firewood and fruit tree species for women's gardens.

In Asia there are seven energy projects that will benefit women. These include the Sri Lanka Tea Worker project, which involves 22 female specialists in community development. The women are responsible for the oversight of development programs at 16 tea plantations and play a leading role in forestry education.

A handful of Agency projects also are setting examples for the wide range of benefits and roles for women which can be derived from water and sanitation efforts.

For example in the Africa region, six countries identify water and sanitation in their WID efforts, and all but two identify time savings for women as a major project benefit, allowing women to pursue other productive activities.

In Asia, three projects directly benefit women by improving access to water, including an integrated health project in Nepal, which features a range of activities and services—health care and family planning, training, resource conservation, and agricultural and economic development.

The *1984 Report to Congress on Women in Development* reflects the Agency's growing commitment to integrating WID concerns in all programs and strategies. Copies of the report may be requested from PPC/WID, Room 3725-A, New State.

—Deborah R. Purcell

**AGRICULTURE**



With AID's help, Zambia's strategy to head off a pest that destroys stored maize may serve as an example to other nations.

The pest, the larger grain borer (LGB), can ruin up to 30% of stored maize. Although it only has struck in Kenya, Burundi, Zaire, Tanzania, Uganda and Togo, its spread poses a threat to all of maize-producing Africa.

Now, because the LGB threatens to invade Zambia from the north, the Zambia mission is planning to fight the pest before its arrival. The S&T/AGR-supported Food and Feed Grain Institute (FFGI) at Kansas State University is assisting in the effort.

Valerie Wright of FFGI worked with 44 participants at a strategy-setting workshop to develop recommendations for dealing with the LGB when it reaches Zambia. Potential activities include preparing for the invasion, inspection routines, sampling plans, communication, organization of a control program and areas for immediate action.

**PESTICIDE WORKSHOP PLANNED**

S&T/AGR, along with the German Agency for Technical Development (GTZ) and the government of Togo, is sponsoring a workshop on pesticide legislation in Lome, Togo, April 10-18.

Experts on U.S., Canadian, German and French pesticide regulations will serve as resource persons to assist West African participants in developing model legislation appropriate to the region.

In addition to pesticide specialists from developed countries, the international trade association for manufacturers of agrochemicals and the OAU-Phytosanitary Council will be invited. Invitations have been extended to 17 West African nations.

For more information, contact Carroll Collier, S&T/AGR/AP, room 413, SA-18, telephone 235-8886.

**PEANUT YIELD INCREASES**

Networking among AID-funded research project has paid off in a marked increase in peanut yields.

A 26% increase in yields, which resulted from a plant-rhizobium interaction, was reported in field trials by scientists working with the S&T/AGR-supported Peanut Collaborative Research Program (CRSP).

Rhizobia are soil bacteria which can form nodules on roots of leguminous plants to turn atmospheric nitrogen into a form the plants can use. The nitrogen substitutes for chemical nitrogen fertilizer, which is often too expensive or unavailable for farmers in developing countries.

Through an AID-financed program, rhizobia were collected from Uruguay. Scientists from North Carolina State University isolated the rhizobium and entered it into a routine series of tests.

Laboratory tests showed nothing unusual. However, greater success was found in field tests conducted by the

International Center for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). The rhizobium now called NC-92 interacted with a peanut variety named Robut 3301 resulting in the yield increase. Similar increases have occurred at other locations.

The interaction is still being studied. Scientists hope to determine the cause of the yield increase. They also want to see if similar increases can be obtained from other varieties.

**ANALYSIS REPORTS AVAILABLE**

Country/regional reports prepared under the S&T/AGR Agricultural Policy Analysis project (APAP) are now available.

Copies are being distributed to interested bureaus and missions. Included are 30 reports of activities in Liberia, Malawi, Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Zaire, Pakistan, Thailand, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Panama, Peru, Africa Regional, Near East Regional, LAC Regional and ROCAP.

The policy reports offer useful background material for technical assistance teams on CDSS preparation, project design and evaluation and may be helpful tools for AID policy dialogue. Copies can be obtained from APAP Officer, S&T/AGR/EPP.

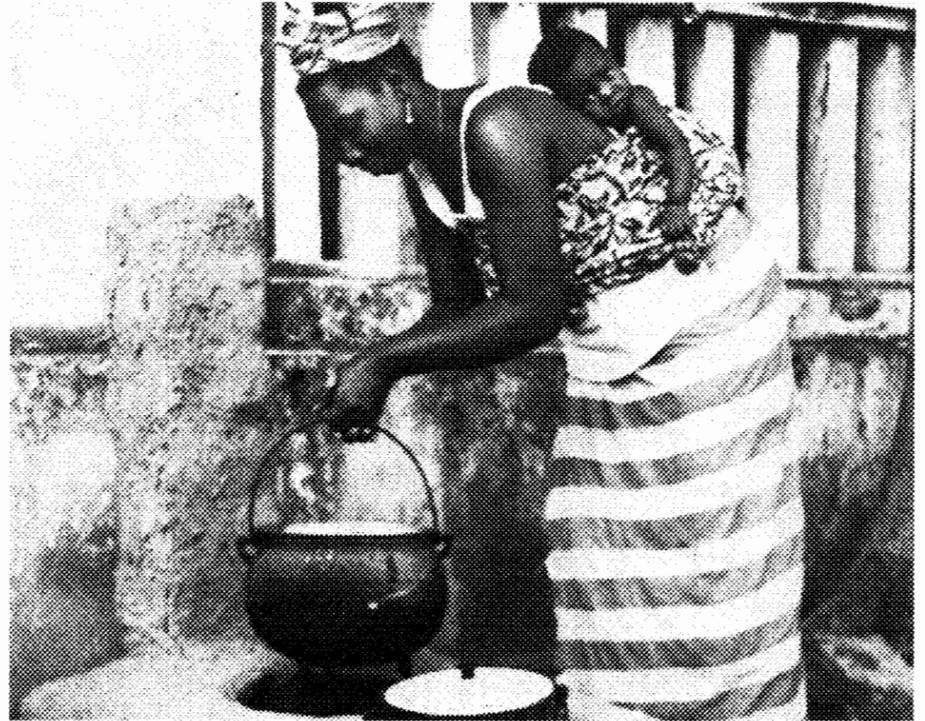
**CONTRACEPTIVE PRICES DROP**

Reductions in the prices for oral contraceptives and condoms over the last three years have saved AID at least \$16.6 million.

In 1980, a monthly cycle of oral contraceptives cost 17.9 cents but in 1984 the cost was reduced to 11 cents. The cost for condoms dropped from \$4.63 per 100 in 1982 to \$4.27 in 1984.

The savings result from the Population Office being able to predict requirements so that production levels remain constant. The office also set up a warehouse and distribution system that absorbs products as they are produced.

Working with suppliers, AID commodity managers helped reduce costs further (about two cents per monthly cycle) by redesigning the packaging.



The Population Office anticipates lower prices for future contraceptive procurements because of continued cooperation between AID and the manufacturers.

The change led to a shipping cost cut of one cent per cycle, and a 60% reduction in warehouse space requirements.

Competition also helped reduce the cost. AID's central procurement system, combined with the Population Office's encouragement of manufacturers to be more interested in AID family planning programs, increased competition among suppliers.

Finally, as technologies develop, companies realize savings on production. Because AID purchases large volumes of products (significantly in excess of domestic requirements), suppliers can invest in technical improvements more readily than would be possible for smaller volumes. These improvements have reduced costs to the U.S. government.

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Even more important than favorable price is the delivery of quality contraceptives on a timely basis to developing country family planning programs—a major factor in program success. The Agency has provided

family planning assistance to more than 70 developing country programs and has delivered more than 1.25 billion cycles of oral contraceptives and more than four billion condoms since 1969.

**NUTRITION**

**FOOD AID IMPROVES DIETS**

In response to growing world interest, the United Nations joined AID in holding a week-long workshop on "Improving the Nutritional Impact of Project Food Aid" in Annapolis, Jan. 13-18.

The sessions brought together 45 experts from AID, the World Food Program, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Bank and other bilateral aid agencies, private and voluntary organizations, managers of developing country food programs and experts from the academic and scientific community.

Martin Forman, director of AID's Office of Nutrition (S&T/N), planned and coordinated the workshop. He represents the Agency on the U.N. Subcommittee on Nutrition, which co-sponsored the workshop.

The issues discussed during the workshop included:

- Targeting food aid to people at greatest risk of malnutrition to use food assistance most efficiently.
- Evaluating the nutritional impact of each program so that later programs can benefit from the experience.
- Maximizing the income transfer aspects of food aid so that recipient families can get the full nutritional benefit.
- Planning for the phase-over of food aid programs from dependency on imports to using local commodities.
- Using nutrition education in conjunction with food aid to promote good feeding practices.
- Using food aid to help infants and young children achieve catch-up growth after diarrhea or infection.

Separate panels drafted papers on each of the six issues which were reviewed in plenary session and are being edited for publication by the United Nations later this year.



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