

Locusts Grip Africa in Potential Famine

On the heels of one of the world's worst droughts, a locust and grasshopper plague of historic proportions is poised to sweep across much of Africa, plunging the continent into renewed famine and suffering.

"Based on reports from our missions and international organizations, Africa is in the grip of the worst locust and grasshopper infestation in 60 years," Administrator Peter McPherson said. "The magnitude of the threat can be illustrated by the fact that a single locust swarm—many of which are now forming in regions of southern and eastern Africa—can devour 80,000 metric tons of cereal crops a day." (This amounts to enough food to feed 50,000 people for one year.)

In a tragic coincidence of nature that has not occurred since the 1930s, four major species of African

locusts—desert, migratory, brown and red—are now in various stages of breeding, hatching, feeding and swarming. Added to the locusts are heavy infestations of Senegalese grasshoppers, particularly in western Africa.

In east Africa, swarms of up to a million locusts have been sighted in three areas east of the Nile river in the Sudan. "To assist in control efforts there," McPherson said, "AID is providing \$1 million through our Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance and an additional \$5 million gathered from other accounts."

The European Economic Community (EEC) and the Dutch have each provided an additional \$1 million.

The control effort in the Sudan will be managed by U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) technicians in cooperation with the Sudanese government.

In Ethiopia, locusts are expected to breed in substantial numbers from now until next March, according to Don Reilly, deputy director of the Bureau for Africa's Office of Technical Resources.

According to a report from Chad, locusts have been discovered in unusually large numbers throughout the country.

Southern Africa has been especially hard hit by the insects, said Reilly. Botswana has allocated local funds equivalent to \$1.44 million for locust control. That country has experienced an outbreak of two species of locusts in the south, southwest and



Four major species of African locusts in various stages of breeding, hatching, feeding and swarming are plaguing Africa—threatening to devour the continent's food crops.

northern regions. Neighboring South Africa, which has launched a multi-million dollar control effort, noted the situation is not under control.

In west Africa, FAO reported that pledges of money and resources have been forthcoming. AID's participation in west Africa involves \$90,000 in funding for a pesticide testing program in Mali, which includes spray plane rental and three technicians. U.S. private sector firms are donating the pesticides. The testing area has been identified as one of the most seriously affected in sub-Saharan Africa.

Also in west Africa, AID has provided Burkina Faso with \$25,000 for the purchase of pest control equipment.

FAO indicated that it is now too late to control the newly hatched locusts and grasshoppers in Senegal, Mali and Burkina Faso, and control efforts will focus on eradicating the

adult insects.

"The real and present threat to Africa from locusts and grasshoppers today requires the same sense of international urgency and cooperation that was generated in response to the recent drought," McPherson said. "With overall management by FAO and the cooperation of individual affected countries and donors, a united effort is being quickly marshaled to prevent a catastrophe of massive proportions that could rapidly spread as far east as India."

Members of AID's technical staff are in daily contact with FAO technical staff in Rome and AID missions throughout Africa to identify specific locations of outbreaks and carry out appropriate responses.

An AID representative also took part in a meeting in Brussels on July 10 with EEC staff to work out final arrangements for a combined donor assistance effort.

Song Helps Teens Say 'No' to Sex

by Nancy Long

Reaching the Top 20 in nearly every Spanish-speaking country in Latin America and holding the number one spot in Mexico from March to May, the record "Cuando Estemos Juntos" (When We're Together) is the latest AID experiment in population planning.

The song's lyrics, sung by teenage superstars Tatiana and Johnny, convey a message that certainly is critical, said Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris at a press conference July 22.

In the song, Johnny sings, "Whenever I'm by your side, I forget everything. . . You tell me to wait. That it's not time to give ourselves everything." Tatiana's voice joins in, "You will see that I'm right when I say no, even though my heart is burning."

"It is a bit of 'man bites dog' to find the bureaucracy taking such a bold step as to use a rock group to convey a message about chastity," continued the deputy administrator.

"The message itself, which advocates personal responsibility for one's actions, is the exact opposite of what most rock lyrics seem to convey. That the song is so popular and elicits such a strong positive response from teenagers of the Latin world is an extremely positive result."

The song and its accompanying video are part of a new five-year, \$10 million AID plan aimed at reaching large audiences in Latin American countries and was devised

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Education Thrust Announced

McPherson Advocates Decentralization Policy

by Suzanne Chase

Third World nations need a more decentralized education system that would involve local communities to a greater degree in the management and financing of local school systems, said Administrator Peter McPherson.

McPherson announced a major new initiative in AID's support for educational opportunities in developing countries and outlined a policy advocating a shift away from the traditional highly centralized education systems. He made the announcement before an audience of 170 development professionals at the annual dinner of the Washington, D.C., chapter of the Society for International Development (SID) held June 25.

"Education is basic to the process of expanding personal opportunities, human rights and democratic systems," said McPherson.

"I am convinced that the average parent living in Third World coun-

tries perceives the value of education and will make the sacrifices necessary for his or her children to obtain it," he said. "We must have greater trust in the ability of poor people to make the right choices and in their willingness to fight for a better life for themselves and their children."

Developing nations have long recognized the importance of education, he said. The proportion of national government budgets spent on education rose from 11% in 1960 to 16% in 1984, and school enrollments nearly tripled between 1960 and 1980.

In 1960, less than one-third of children in low-income countries had an opportunity to attend school. Today, three-quarters receive some schooling, and almost 40% complete four grades, so they can learn how to read and write.

Present day financial realities, however, threaten to undermine progress achieved thus far.

"School-age populations continue to grow, and national budgets for

education are severely constrained," he said. "Unless countries can use their resources much more efficiently, they will not be able to maintain the gains achieved with tremendous effort over the past 20 years, let alone meet the remaining needs for more access for girls, the very poor and others."

AID's program to increase a country's ability to provide improved education to the greatest number of children at a time of declining per capita revenues and competing sector demands centers on decentralization, more efficient use of existing resources and appropriate use of modern technologies.

McPherson contrasted the educational system in the United States, with its roots in the one-room rural schoolhouse and which still involves local control and community involvement, with that of developing countries in which the national budget bears the major burden for education.

He enumerated a number of

(continued on page 4)

Brothers Sentenced for Defrauding AID

For exporting about \$54,000 worth of highly toxic waste materials to a U.S. chemical firm in Zimbabwe, two New York brothers were found guilty of defrauding AID.

After a year-long investigation initiated by AID, Charles and Jack Colbert of the Bronx, N.Y., were each sentenced July 28 to serve 13 years in a federal prison. They are the principals of SCI Equipment and Technology, Ltd., and SIGNO Trading International, Ltd., of Mount Vernon, N.Y.

Each Colbert was convicted of 27 counts, and each corporation of 26 counts of committing conspiracy, mail and wire fraud, making a false claim against the government, and making false statements to the government. In addition, the Colberts were each convicted of one count of obstructing justice.

The Colberts also were fined \$50,000 each and the two corporations were fined a half million dollars, with fines and restitution totaling \$675,400.

"The conviction and sentencing of the Colberts sends an important message to those who would illegally enrich themselves at the expense of the U.S. taxpayer and legitimate recipients of foreign aid," said Administrator Peter McPherson.

"This is more than just a case of fraud. If this hazardous toxic material had hit the economy, it could have seriously endangered the

lives of many inhabitants of Zimbabwe," added AID Inspector General Herbert Beckington.

"The charges grew from the AID-financed purchase of 227 fifty-five gallon drums of chemicals used in dry cleaning and degreasing that were ordered by Chemplex Marketing Corporation of Harare, Zimbabwe," Beckington said. "The brothers engaged in a sophisticated, international 'bait and switch' routine."

Beckington explained that the Colberts agreed to sell pure chemicals to Chemplex but instead shipped the unusable recycled mixture containing highly toxic waste material, which they purchased from a Cleveland, Ohio, distributor of recycled industrial solvents.

"When the chemicals arrived in Zimbabwe," Beckington said, "they contained only about 1% of the chemicals ordered."

Beckington said that the brothers also prepared and submitted false documents to AID and Hanover Trust Company claiming that pure chemicals had been shipped.

The investigation involved extensive work in Africa and the United States. It was conducted by the AID Office of the Inspector General, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and technical assistance was received from the FBI in conjunction with the Assistant U.S. Attorney James DeVita, Southern District of New York.

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Cathryne Bennett, (center left) deputy assistant administrator, Bureau for External Affairs, and Joe McMahon, (center) End Hunger Network, co-chair the judges review of nominations for the 1986 Presidential End Hunger Awards. Judges include (from left): Mollie Miller; Cliff Robertson; Stan Hosie, executive director, Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific; LaVern Freeh, vice president for International Development and Governmental Affairs, Land O'Lakes; Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-NY); Philip Johnston, executive director, CARE; Robin Davis, executive director, International Service Association for Health, Inc.; Jim Cowan, director, Office of International Programs and Studies, National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges; Tom McKay, director, Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation; Marie Davis Gadsden; and Walter Carrington, Howard University.



Cover Photo: Administrator Peter McPherson stresses decentralization in achieving educational objectives in the developing world. See page 1 and related story on page 11.



Feature of the Month: OFDA—see page 8.

Awards Ceremony Honors Employees

Three AID employees were honored with the Agency's first "Science and Technology in Development Award" as part of the recent 1986 Honor Awards Ceremony.

"This award will annually recognize achievement by employees overseas and in AID/Washington who have advanced science and technology in development through a highly significant, innovative science and technology project," Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris said in presenting the awards.

The award was given to the designers and implementors of the Visite a Domicile de Motivation Systematique (VDMS) for pioneering an approach to family planning and

"Job satisfaction of those in public service comes in the performance of the job itself."

child survival services delivery in Morocco.

William Trayfors, deputy director of the Africa Bureau's Office of Technical Resources, was cited for introducing the original research activity and launching family planning activities in Morocco.

Gerard Bowers, population and health development officer of AID's mission in Bolivia, was recognized for his work in promoting policy dialogue with the government of Morocco and translating the oral rehydration therapy activity into a national program.

Miriam Labbok of the Department of Population Dynamics at Johns Hopkins University was recognized

for managing the oral rehydration therapy phase of the project.

This also was the first year that the "Administrator's Implementation Award" was presented to an individual. J. Paul Guedet, director of AID's mission in Botswana, was recognized for outstanding management accomplishment from January 1982 through November 1985.

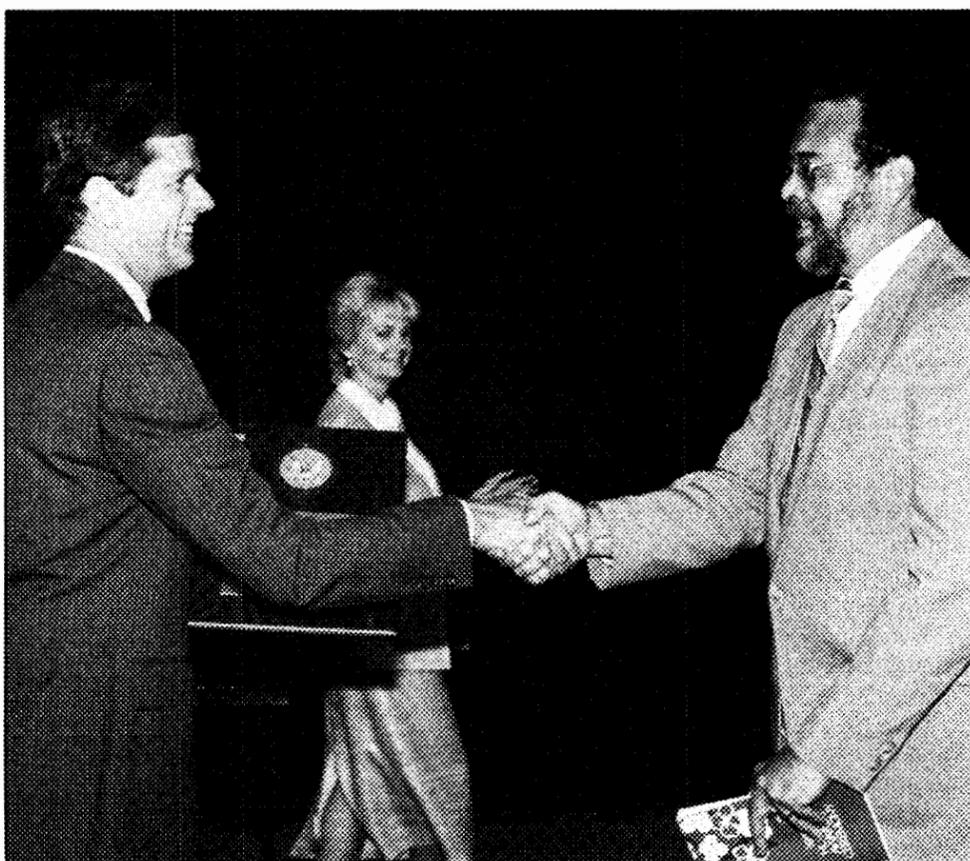
Morris said Guedet provided leadership in reconfiguring the AID country program in Botswana from 21 active projects to six, making significant reductions in operating expenses while maintaining the level of effective assistance.

James Murphy, chief of the Services Operations Division of the Bureau for Management, received the "Presidential Management Improvement Award" in recognition of his development of a program for Defense Base Act worker's compensation insurance. The program has been recommended for adoption by all government agencies with overseas contracts.

Elizabeth Hogan of the Bureau for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance's Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation was given the "Congressional Award for Exemplary Service to the Public" in recognition of her work with the Biden-Pell Development Education Program.

Alice Appelman of the Bureau for Science and Technology's Directorate for Population was the civil service recipient of the "Outstanding Secretaries Award" and W. Colleen Harris of the Bureau for Africa's Office of Central and Coastal West Africa Affairs was honored as the foreign service recipient.

Laurance Bond, director of the Regional Economic Development Services Office/West and Central Africa, was presented the "Equal



Laurance Bond (right), director of the Regional Economic Development Services Office/West and Central Africa, accepts the Equal Employment Opportunity Award from Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris.

Employment Opportunity Award" for his effectiveness in advancing the goals of Equal Employment Opportunity Programs.

Morris also paid tribute to the two AID employees killed in the December 1984 hijacking of a Kuwaiti plane.

William A. Stanford and Charles F. Hegna, who worked at the Office of the Regional Inspector General in Pakistan, each was awarded "The Secretary's Award" posthumously during the ceremony.

"This award is presented to employees of State, AID, USIA and U.S. Marines assigned to U.S. Embassies in recognition of sacrifice of personal health, including life, in the performance of official duties," Morris said.

Charles Kapar of the Office of the Regional Inspector General was given an "Award for Valor." Morris said the award is given to those who have demonstrated "outstanding performance under unusually difficult or dangerous circumstances that require exceptional personal bravery and perseverance to complete an assignment."

Elliot Richardson, former Secretary of Defense, Attorney General and Secretary of Commerce, was the featured speaker. He said all AID employees deserve to be recognized because of the "moral dimension" of their service to the public.

Richardson said AID's mission could be stated in coldly objective terms—to ensure the security interests of the United States throughout the world, to promote the advancement of the political interests of the United States by helping countries through economic development programs, to foster good relations between the United States and other countries, and to



Deputy Administrator Morris congratulates Alice Appelman, Bureau for Science and Technology, and presents her the Outstanding Civil Service Secretary Award.

strengthen U.S. leadership in the free world.

"But then I suspect that would be an insufficient statement of your own feelings of your mission because you, too, are engaged in what in the end is an effort to help individual human beings," Richardson said.

He said AID employees are involved in numerous aspects of public service. Their duties often are described by such bureaucratic terms as administration, budgeting and efforts to improve efficiency. Ultimately, he said, job satisfaction of those in public service comes in the performance of the job itself.

"(Satisfaction comes) from the awareness of the important and useful task that will be performed; the knowledge that the national interest has been helped by your efforts; that the lives of individuals . . . have been made healthier or safer or happier," Richardson said.

—Bill Outlaw



In a ceremony in Rome, Italy, Ambassador to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Millicent Fenwick (center) presents awards to AID employees (from left) Allan Furman, H. Peters Strong, Patricia Zanella and Deputy Chief of Mission Edmund Parsons.

'No' to Sex

From page 1, column 1

by Johns Hopkins University's School of Public Health. The total cost of the rock and roll experiment was \$300,000. The remainder of the Hopkins grant focuses on more traditional methods of communication and a variety of needs assessments.

"It is one of the most successful examples of a creative partnership between government and the private sector to carry out in an entertaining way a very serious purpose, namely to deal with the problem of unwed parents," said Morris. "There are roughly one million children born out of wedlock in Latin America each year."

The record has elicited a tremendous response already, he continued. "The record company, EMI, announced that 150,000 copies of the record have been sold."

Morris added that one of the real breakthroughs in this program is the use of an MTV-style campaign. AID will continue to use novel ways that recognize cultural preferences in conveying its concerns, he said.

"As examples of what the response has been in addition to sales," Morris said, "Catholic schools throughout the Dominican Republic used the record as a basis for classroom discussion. In Bolivia, a series of television programs, one



Latin superstars Tatiana and Johnny deliver a message about chastity in their hit record "Cuando Estemos Juntos," the latest AID experiment in population planning.

featuring the Archbishop of the Catholic church of that country, used it as a focus of discussion.

"And, in Peru, radio stations ran a

contest urging people to write in and say what the song meant to them," he added. "More than 7,000 letters were received from teenagers

explaining their reaction to the song, and it was evident from an analysis of those letters that the message came through loud and clear."

The deputy administrator went on to say that using the role models of Tatiana and Johnny has been an effective way of countering peer pressure, which is often viewed as contradicting traditional values.

"The singers make it clear in the song that when you have the right to choose, you have the right to say no," said Morris, "and that saying no is not only the responsible thing to do but something that is approved by your peers."

AID plans to recognize Tatiana and Johnny when they visit the United States this month. Morris congratulated the singers for making their talent available and for donating the proceeds of the record sales to the Johns Hopkins program.

A second record, "Detente" (Wait), is scheduled to be released soon in Mexico.

"We have all been taught the difference between right and wrong," said Morris, "and I think most of us, in Latin America and throughout the world, know that difference and want to do what is right, but we all need a little encouragement from time to time. Efforts such as this encourage people to do the right thing—what they want to do."

Long is a writer/editor in the Office of Publications.

Education

From page 1, column 4

ways in which education could be supported at the local level. These include:

- Increasing the local tax authority to raise money for education through property or other taxes;
- Encouraging the use of school fees or other direct contributions;
- Levying payroll taxes on employers to finance vocational training; and,
- Providing matching grants from the central government to act as an incentive to generate funds locally for school buildings and similar purposes.

Local generation of education revenues is only one aspect of decentralization, McPherson emphasized. "The balance between national standards and local authority is a question that has to be addressed. In most countries, the central authorities will continue to provide a substantial share of the financing," he said.

Activities that probably should remain at the central level, he said, include establishing standards for teacher recruitment and training, determining core curriculum and selecting and procuring textbooks and teachers' guides.

However, constructing and maintaining classrooms, recruiting and employing teachers, and supplementing core curriculum and national textbooks with locally generated materials are responsibilities more

appropriately borne at the local level, the Administrator added.

Recognizing that these recommendations involve "complex issues of public policy and financial administration," McPherson noted that the World Bank, in coordination with AID, will undertake a more in-depth study of decentralization proposals.

In addition to the financial burden inherent in the current large-scale education systems, increased enrollments present enormous management problems. "It is important that we—the donor community—in our efforts to help countries expand their education systems give priority to child retention and promotion and other efficiency measures," McPherson said. "Where resources are limited, educational planners need more reliable and accurate information on which to base sound decisions."

For example, in many countries in Africa, 100 primary students can be educated for the cost of one student's university education. "Knowing the data is the first step toward making rational allocations," he said.

He also cited AID's recent work in Somalia, Botswana, Indonesia, Haiti and Yemen to improve the efficiency of the education system under a 10-year project. Major assessments of each country's education system and fiscal capacity to support it were conducted, resulting in important policy decisions by these countries based upon the information obtained.

"It is this type of long-term assistance for analysis and planning that the donor community should support

because it will enable countries to make better decisions and more efficient use of their resources," he said. Improvement in educational planning, administration and management of resources, he added, should lead to significant increases in the number of students completing the system and to substantial improvement in access for girls, the rural poor and children from urban slums.

The use of modern technology for education also has great potential for rapid and significant improvement in the quality and availability of education, McPherson said.

AID's radio education project in the Dominican Republic, for example, has been reaching children in the poor southwest region of the country with an hour of basic education every day.

An AID project in Nepal also uses radio to upgrade the skills of teachers in rural schools while they remain on the job.

"We must exploit whatever help technology offers," McPherson said. "We have no choice if we are to serve the huge number of children needing education."

McPherson pointed out the interrelationship of the Agency's three focal points of decentralization, efficiency and use of technology in educational programs.

Technology can improve the quality of instruction, thereby reducing drop-out rates and saving millions of dollars that otherwise would be wasted.

"An effective division of responsibility and authority will mean more

accountability at each level of the system," he said. "Through accountability children are better served. Also, teachers supervised and paid by local authorities are more likely to show up in a classroom on a daily basis than those responsible to a faceless bureaucracy in a distant capitol.

"An educational system that is managed by the people who benefit from it and profit from effective instruction made possible by modern technology is also likely to achieve a higher level of efficiency," he said.

AID has allocated \$50 million for education programs this fiscal year, the Administrator said, in addition to general training programs, and will continue to find ways to encourage and assist Third World countries to provide higher quality educational services to many more of their citizens.

"This is a great challenge, but more importantly, it is a great opportunity," McPherson said. "The opportunity is written on the face of the child who can escape the prison of ignorance and lift his country with his talent and energy."

During the meeting, SID President John Beyer presented McPherson with a special award for outstanding contributions to the field of international development.

Chase is assistant editor of Front Lines.

Turn to page 11 for related article emphasizing local participation in education.

Incentive-Oriented Project Saving Energy

With the aim of reducing charcoal and wood consumption in Africa, new improved charcoal cookstove programs are springing up in Kenya, Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Botswana and Senegal.

In the past, similar programs have failed for a number of reasons, including inadequate quantities of stoves being produced and inefficiently designed stoves that resulted in insignificant energy savings for stove owners.

But the incentive-oriented stove projects that AID initiated in Somalia and Kenya and those AID is funding in Sudan and Lesotho overcome such drawbacks, said Tony Pryor, energy advisor for AID's Regional Economic Development Services Office for East and Southern Africa.

Pryor attributes the success of the AID projects to four program precepts.

First, marketing strategies are directed exclusively to people who already buy fuel or use stoves. "Selling efforts are more effective because the consumers are already interested in the stoves and may wish to purchase a more efficient stove," Pryor said.

Second, existing stove manufacturers and marketers make and distribute the stoves, thereby avoiding start-up costs, and rely on the expertise of Africa's own technicians and entrepreneurs.

Third, private sector and non-governmental organizations rather than local governments promote the stoves.

Finally, and most importantly, Pryor said, the continuation of the stove projects depends on market forces: Consumers, retailers and manufacturers have to realize significant profits and be satisfied.

To date, Kenya has made the most progress and is often cited as a model for the rest of Africa in adopting the improved stoves, said Pryor.

"The AID-supported, improved

charcoal cookstove program in Kenya has adapted local technologies, skills and marketing networks to develop a stove that uses 30-50% less charcoal than traditional models, cooks faster and costs about the same as a family's monthly charcoal supply," said Laurie Kelly, a former Peace Corps volunteer in the Cookstoves and Agroforestry Extension program.

Massive deforestation, worsened by accelerated charcoal demand, is causing environmental deterioration and shortages of woodfuels and other wood products in Kenya.

"In addition, a 1980 energy study noted that Kenya's urban population, the main consumer of charcoal, grows 7% each year and charcoal demands also are likely to rise," Kelly said.

To avoid a resource crisis, AID, with substantial government of Kenya contributions, in 1981 launched the \$6.5 million Kenya Renewable Energy Development Project (KREDP).

The project was designed to promote domestic energy resources. It included planting trees on farms, conserving energy within industries and developing energy-saving cookstoves.

By 1982, progress on developing the energy-efficient stoves was visible, said Kelly. "Many different stove designs were tested in markets throughout Kenya. After months of collaboration, Kenyan artists chose a variation of the 'Thai bucket,' a ceramic-insulated, metal-clad stove successfully used in the stove industry in Thailand," she explained.

Kelly said that the Kenyan ceramic "Jiko" outperforms the traditional stove model in several ways. The stove's ceramic insulation promotes efficiency, prevents burns and fosters hot, complete combustion, reducing carbon monoxide emissions.

Confident of the new model, KREDP arranged for artisans to learn how to make the stoves, and they, in turn, taught the technique to blacksmiths and potters at six Ministry of Energy regional agroforestry-energy production centers.

Pryor said that about 10% of Kenyan urban households now have improved charcoal stoves. "Prices for the ceramic stove have plummeted during the last six months, as new producers have entered the market; a stove that sold for 110 Kenya shillings (\$6.90) six months ago now can be bought for as little as 48 shillings (\$3)."

A former stove project leader explained, "Once a prototype has been designed, tested and accepted as a marketable commodity, it really doesn't take a lot more donor funds to begin to copy and distribute the stove. After that, the market really takes over."

"Since 1983, consumers have bought over 125,000 improved stoves," Kelly said. "The initial annual sales target was 5,000, and now consumers buy more than 5,000 stoves each month."



Kenya's President Daniel T. Arap Moi, an active supporter of the renewable energy program, admires the improved stoves.

AID, through Appropriate Technology International, is financing a project that will provide loans and technical assistance for establishing 20 additional privately operated, improved stove production centers in Kenya. The resulting increase in producer competition, if supplemented by strengthened extension services, will ensure stove availability and quality, Kelly reported.

"Progress is being made at an extraordinary rate in other countries as well," said Pryor. "In Sudan, production of new stoves by small fabricators has reached approx-

imately 10,000 per year, which is remarkable considering that the stoves presently being sold were non-existent three years ago."

Kelly summed up what most users think of the improved stove when she quoted a Kenyan mother, "It is too good: You can cook vegetables, ugali, milk-tea, boil water for the children's baths, and still there is charcoal remaining."

Information for this article was provided by REDSO/ESA and Laurie Kelly and edited by Nancy Long, staff writer in the Office of Publications.



Kenyan artisans mold the stove's clay liners at a production center.

Former Officer Sentenced to Serve Year in Prison

Following his conviction on fraud charges July 21, Byron Botts, former executive officer at the Yemen mission, was sentenced to one year in prison.

Baltimore U.S. District Judge Walter Black, in sentencing Botts, stated he would not tolerate white collar criminals who steal from the government and that he "wanted to send a strong message to public employees who violate their public trust, even though the amounts in question may be relatively small."

"This case is another example of how the Office of the Inspector General is continuing its battle against fraud, waste and abuse," said Administrator Peter McPherson. "One aim of that office is to make sure that the taxpayers' money is used for its intended purposes."

AID Inspector General Herbert Beckington, whose office initiated the

investigation in 1983, added, "It is regrettable that an Agency employee would be involved in this kind of criminal conduct. However, when such a crime occurs, it is important that the culprit be unmasked and punished for his conduct as a deterrent to all federal employees."

The fraud concerned a \$10,400 education allowance advance Botts received while at the AID office in Sanaa. He also submitted false documents for lodging expenses, claimed expenses for using his own residence while on temporary duty, made false statements to AID investigators, used false documents for a federally-secured loan and failed to account for government travel funds.

In addition, Botts used government airline tickets for personal gain.

Botts will serve one year in prison and will be required to restore \$11,415 to the U.S. Treasury.

Eaton Named New Director to Mauritania

George Eaton was sworn in June 12 as mission director to Mauritania.

Eaton's principal duties will be to direct a program that focuses on agricultural production and research and the infrastructure needed to support such a program. Rural health care and a food aid program also are major concerns.

Eaton joined AID in 1965. During his 21 years of experience in international economic development, he has been assigned as desk officer in the Office of Eastern and Southern Africa; program officer in Kenya, Tanzania and Swaziland; and program officer and deputy mission director to Mali.

Since 1982, he has been director of the Office of Programs, Bureau for Science and Technology.

Eaton earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Duke University in 1960 and a master's degree in political science from Yale University in 1961.

AID BRIEFS



A \$50,000 grant to improve the alternatives of out-of-school youth is signed by the Philippines Mission Director Fred Schieck (third from left). Others at the ceremony include (from left) the Rev. Peter Zago, rector at the Don Bosco school; Bryant George, AID private voluntary organization coordinator; and Osmundo Rama, governor of Cebu Province.

Grant to Benefit Cebu Youth

To help carry out a three-year training program aimed at improving the alternatives of out-of-school youth in Cebu Province, the Philippines, AID entered into a grant agreement with the Salesian Society on July 1.

Through the one million pesos (\$50,000) grant, almost 600 youth between 17-25 years will receive technical/vocational training in industrial electricity, industrial electronics, machine shop practice, gas and arc welding, and woodworking. Mission Director Fred Schieck explained, "Additionally, job placement assistance to graduates will be provided through linkages with companies in need of trained manpower."

During the ceremony, which took place at the Salesian Society's Don Bosco Jail project site in Cebu City, Schieck called attention to the success of the first grant to the society, which provided support for the rehabilitation and vocational training program for juvenile inmates of the Cebu provincial jail.

"The young men will be helped to overcome the initial difficulties of little training and little schooling," said Schieck. "And, what is equally important is that they may become role models to show other young men who are out of school that there is an opportunity to make a positive contribution to the growth of this remarkable country."

IN MEMORIAM

ALBERT ROSENFELD

AID retiree Albert Rosenfeld died July 13 of a heart ailment at the Montgomery General Hospital in Maryland. He was 77.

Rosenfeld joined the AID predecessor organization in 1958 and was assigned to the Latin America bureau as a management analyst. From 1962 until his retirement in 1966, he was a special assistant to the assistant administrator of the Africa and Europe bureau.

Rosenfeld is survived by his wife Helen and two daughters. Mrs. Rosenfeld resides at Rossmoor Leisure World in Silver Spring, Md.

Afghan Group Plans Reunion

The annual reunion of Afghan Old Hands will be held Nov. 1 at Westpark Hotel, Tysons Corner, 8401 Westpark Drive, McLean, Va.

The cost is \$20 and the event will include a cash bar at 6 p.m. and dinner at 8 p.m. Reservations should be made before Sept. 30. Checks should be made payable to the Afghanistan Reunion and mailed to: Sadie Goodman, 2500 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., #501, Washington, D.C. 20007.



Following a three-week training course and tour of U.S. cities, 18 mayors from Latin America and the Caribbean received certificates of completion at an AID ceremony. Dwight Ink (center), assistant administrator for the Bureau for Latin America and Caribbean, presents Mayor Macias of Panama his award. Paul White (left), project manager for the Central American Peace Scholarship Project, said that the mayors visited cities in Pennsylvania, New York, Arizona and Kansas to observe different aspects of public administration and local government and to establish ties with U.S. mayors.

Herrick Is New Director

Allison Herrick, a career foreign service officer with 23 years of international experience, was sworn in as mission director for the Agency's program in Zimbabwe at the State Department June 27.

AID assistance to Zimbabwe has averaged more than \$40 million since 1980. The program is designed to improve the climate for investment, stimulate private sector activity, increase agricultural productivity and generate increased income, especially among small farmers.

Herrick will direct both the Zimbabwe bilateral assistance program and the Southern Africa Regional program. In the latter capacity, she will work with the Southern African Regional Coordination Conference, the organization of the nine majority-ruled countries in the region.

Since joining AID in 1969, Herrick has worked on African and Latin American programs and has managed planning and budget-oriented concerns. Her most recent African assignment was as director of the Agency's mission in Kenya. Herrick's last assignment was deputy assistant administrator for the Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination.

Herrick graduated from Smith College and completed three years of graduate study in anthropology at Yale University.

Poland Gets Dairy Goods

The Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, as well as private American and international donors, provided almost \$2 million worth of emergency dairy products to Poland for use in areas affected by the April 26 Soviet nuclear accident in Chernobyl.

Administrator Peter McPherson announced July 2 that the products included 182 metric tons of non-fat dry milk sent by air May 16 and 1,952 metric tons of non-fat dry milk, cheese, butter and butter oil sent by ship.

The emergency products were distributed through U.S. private voluntary organizations including Catholic Relief Services, World Vision and Americares Foundation.

The nuclear accident created a serious health hazard for the people of Russia and other East European countries. Dairy products in Polish markets became scarce when news of the disaster spread.

This situation was aggravated by suspicions that fresh dairy products arriving at stores may have been processed with contaminated milk.

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.

Attorney Virginia Greene is available to AID employees for counseling on any aspect of workplace harassment. She can be reached at 457-6184.

AID, Salvadorans Keep Power Flowing

by Lucy Shepard

Helping El Salvador achieve economic stabilization in the midst of a terrorist insurgency is the challenge faced daily by AID's mission in San Salvador.

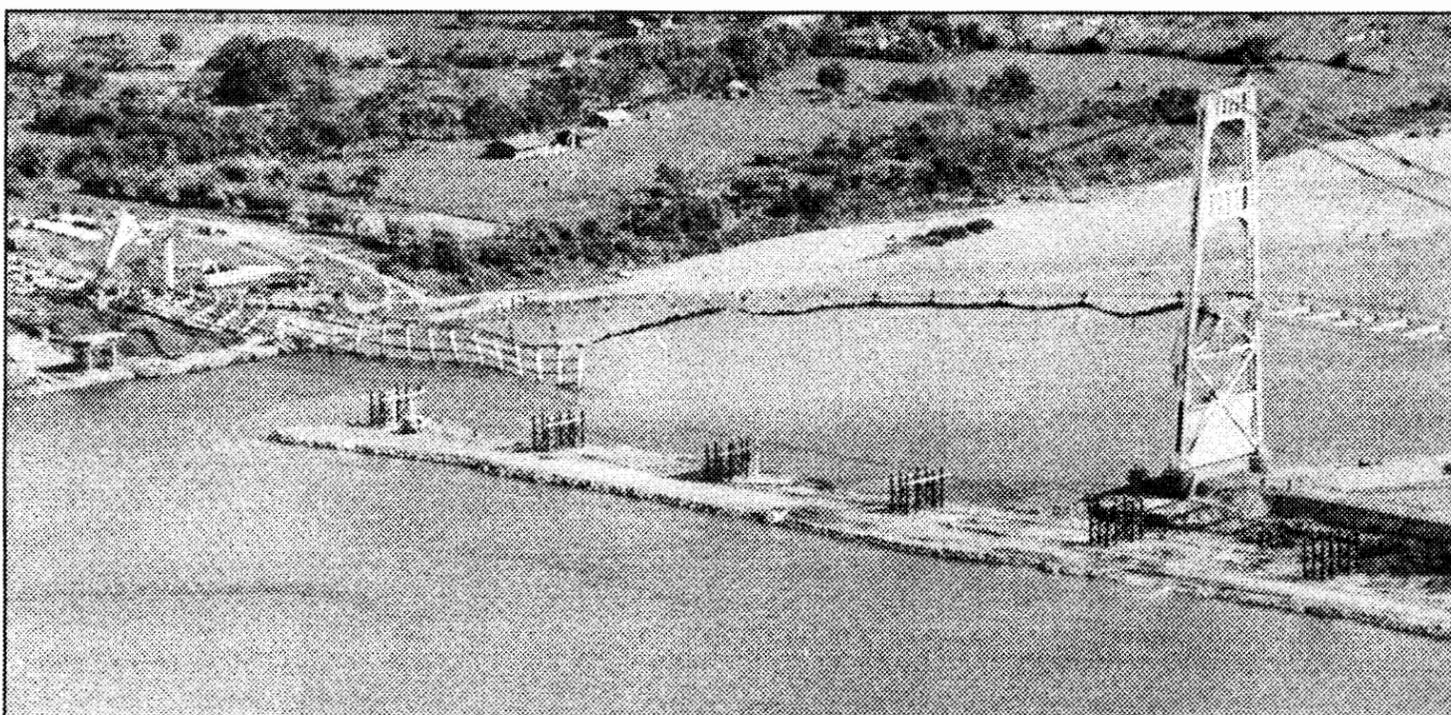
"One of the chief strategies of the communist-backed guerrilla command has been to cripple the economy through destruction of the economic infrastructure—primarily the electrical and transportation systems," says Chuck Brady, director of the mission's General Development Office. "Virtually anything related to transportation, communications or ongoing commercial and industrial activities has been a primary guerrilla target."

Conservative estimates of the destruction costs since 1979 run to \$581 million, he adds.

In response, AID has undertaken a major program to assist the government of El Salvador restore these vital services as quickly as possible to minimize disruption of the economy.

"AID's Public Services Restoration project has kept the road and railroad systems open and the power flowing," says Brady. As the Salvadoran armed forces contain the insurgency, he adds, the project will expand assistance for permanent restoration of infrastructure damaged by the war until other donors begin to operate at full capacity.

Since the conflict began in 1979, 71 destroyed bridges have been repaired. More than 140 units of construction equipment have been provided to the El Salvador Highway Directorate to replace equipment



After the destruction of a suspension bridge in October 1981, AID financed the upgrading of a nearby railroad bridge and the necessary detours to reroute traffic. AID also financed the construction of a Bailey bridge at this site.

bridges to restore the route.

"All of this work took place in only 21 days. The impact of the bridge destruction proved to be considerably less than we feared thanks to the rapid response of the government of El Salvador and some emergency procurement on the part of AID to obtain critical Bailey bridge components," says Deinken.

Damage to El Salvador's electrical system also has been extensive, says Brady. Some areas of the country have experienced continuous power outages for weeks and intermittent outages for much longer periods of time. Overall electrical

transport equipment and repair crews to and from remote or inaccessible areas.

"Whereas repairs often took up to 12 days, the helicopters have cut reaction time to a fraction of that," says Brady, "and have significantly reduced foreign exchange required for fuel to operate standby generators."

A backup system consisting of 47 AID-financed emergency generators has been set up to provide standby power to hospitals, water pumping stations and other essential utilities. A 22.1-megawatt generator in San Miguel was financed by AID to provide power to the country's eastern region, which in one year suffered an approximate loss of \$52 million in production due to power outages.

The repair or reconstruction of the public service infrastructure requires tools, parts, equipment or replacements that can only come from outside the country, says Deinken. The project has provided immediate foreign exchange for purchase or lease of these items and services. To date, \$78 million in loans and grants has been authorized to assist the government of El Salvador meet restoration needs.

"AID assistance is used to procure and maintain strategic stockpiles of key materials—replacement utility poles, power line hardware, Bailey bridge components—that are used to meet emergency repair demands of damaged infrastructure," he adds.

The anticipation of commodity needs and the expeditious purchase of these materials are crucial to ensure an emergency response capability on the part of government institutions. An advertising waiver speeds commodity procurement, but great care still must be taken in the development of bidding documents and specifications, Deinken notes.

"We are fortunate to have a very high level of professional capability in some of the government institutions with which we work and have developed with them an effective

host country contracting process," he says. "Our own FSN (foreign service national) staff is extremely dedicated and capable, which enables us to closely monitor bidding procedures and awards. We contracted nearly \$6 million in January 1986 and well over \$1 million a month since then."

Future activities will continue to focus largely on improving the government's ability to respond to service outages with quick, and often temporary, repairs, Deinken says. Increasingly, however, more permanent restoration is required. For example, new transmission line towers might be installed where temporary wooden replacement poles have become clearly inadequate.

The current Public Services Restoration project is expected to end by December 1987, according to Brady. It will be replaced by a Public Services Restoration/Infrastructure Rehabilitation program in fiscal 1988. "We intend for this to serve as a bridge to the earliest possible involvement of other international donors," he says.

"The Salvadorans who do the repair work are the unsung heroes," Brady says. Eighty employees of the Ministry of Public Works have been killed on the job, 12 have been captured by guerrilla forces and 42 have been seriously wounded. "Yet, they continue to respond to the call of duty knowing there is a possibility for ambush en route to the damage site or that they can come under fire while on the job," he says. "Their task has been made even more difficult by explosives and mines left at the damaged sites by guerrillas."

"The resources we at AID put into restoration of services have made a difference," Brady continues. "But the efforts of the Salvadorans, the courage and genius they have shown in dealing with this situation, have been extraordinary."

Shepard is the information officer at USAID/El Salvador.

"The Salvadorans who do the repair work are the unsung heroes. They respond to the call of duty knowing that they can come under fire while on the job."

destroyed by guerrillas and permit rapid response to bridge and highway sabotage. Rapidly erected temporary steel bridge replacement structures known as Bailey bridges have been used at 28 sites.

One example is the replacement of the Cuscatlan Bridge. On Jan. 1, 1984, the bridge, a major crossing over the Rio Lempa on the Pan American Highway, was destroyed by terrorists.

"The Pan American Highway is the most important east-west route in the country and is vital to commerce and to Salvadoran security. With its destruction, El Salvador was faced with a serious emergency," says Peter Deinken, deputy general development officer.

The Ministry of Public Works and the electric authority mobilized heavy equipment—some of which was being used on a nearby hydroelectric project—to build an earthfill causeway and approaches. The ministry erected two 200-foot Bailey

usage, which climbed at an annual rate of 11-12% until 1980, has fallen to pre-1978 levels.

"El Salvador has 1,800 structural steel towers for high tension electrical transmission lines stretching over some 700 kilometers," Brady notes. "Some have been destroyed and partial damage has been incurred by others. The replacement cost for each runs anywhere between \$28,000 to \$33,000," he adds.

Rather than attempt to repair all damage on a one-for-one basis, AID and the Salvadoran government work to develop the capacity to react quickly when damage occurs and to minimize service outages.

AID has provided tools, equipment and materials, including helicopter leasing, to the electric authority, the Comision Ejecutiva Hidroelectrica Del Rio Lempa (CEL).

Two helicopters (a second added in 1985) have enabled CEL to make rapid assessments of damages and to

FEATURE OF THE MONTH

Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

by Raisa Scriabine

Be it a tidal wave, cyclone, earthquake or volcanic eruption, natural disasters are an inherent part of life on a volatile planet. Man has added to this destabilizing situation by generating civil strife, creating oil spills, dumping toxic waste and engaging in other acts of technological mismanagement.

It is a cruel irony that a large share of disasters occur in developing nations, those with the fewest resources to cope. In the last two years alone, a trail of devastation has crossed the face of the planet. A cyclone killed 10,000 in Bangladesh. A volcano erupted, sending a river of mud to bury 23,000 in Colombia. An earthquake shattered Mexico City,

United States has provided over \$2.5 billion in foreign disaster relief. OFDA responds to an average of 40 natural or man-made disasters a year.

"Our record of swift and effective relief is a reflection of the generosity of the American people and our nation's humanitarian tradition," notes Office Director Julia Taft. "We tap into the best specialized resources of the federal government."

This includes the services of some 10 agencies including the departments of Health and Human Services, Defense, Commerce, Interior and Agriculture. OFDA also draws on the extensive experience of state and local governments and private sector organizations.

When disaster strikes, the U.S.

"Minutes wasted are lives lost. When help is requested, OFDA moves with military precision and exercises its own 'rapid deployment force.'"

taking 10,000 lives. The specter of famine threatened some 30 nations in sub-Saharan Africa in the worst drought of the century.

The United States has participated in international disaster relief since 1812 when food and supplies were shipped to earthquake victims in Venezuela. Subsequently, aid was provided to Cuban victims of the Spanish-American War and to survivors of a volcanic eruption on Martinique in 1902 and two Italian earthquakes in 1908.

It wasn't until 1964, however, that AID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) was created to coordinate America's relief efforts. Since then, OFDA has helped victims of 772 disasters in 128 countries in which 2.3 million died and 770 million were affected. The

ambassador in the affected country is able to respond immediately by determining that U.S. assistance is warranted after an official request from the affected country has been made for aid. The ambassador can then authorize up to \$25,000 for immediate emergency relief. Beyond that, OFDA and the AID Administrator, who is also the President's Special Coordinator for International Disaster Assistance, must approve all further U.S. relief efforts.

Dealing with disasters requires skill and speed. Minutes wasted are lives lost. When help is requested, OFDA moves with military precision and exercises its own "rapid deployment force." An around-the-clock operation goes into effect. The office's 23-person staff and numerous volunteers work in shifts to monitor



OFDA Director Julia Taft and Bob Thibeault, disaster operations officer for the Africa Division, study extent of locust infestation that is destroying African crops.

the flow of information, to assess the situation as it changes and to provide the appropriate response as quickly as possible.

"A number of our staffers are real professionals in this business. They have spent five or more years on the job," says Fred Cole, OFDA's assistant director for Asia and the Pacific. It is that detailed knowledge of an operation that enables OFDA to work quickly and efficiently.

"The first challenge we face is to figure out exactly what happened," says Oliver Davidson, OFDA's Operations Division chief. "We need to have the specifics to know how to respond."

The task is much tougher than it may seem at first glance. Communications often are severely disrupted in affected areas. Telephone and telegraph lines may be down. "We piece together the picture from a variety of sources of information including embassy cables, mission reports and what we get from the media," Davidson explains.

Close contact is maintained with AID's mission disaster relief officer (MDRO) in the stricken nation. At each U.S. post overseas, an individual is designated the MDRO to

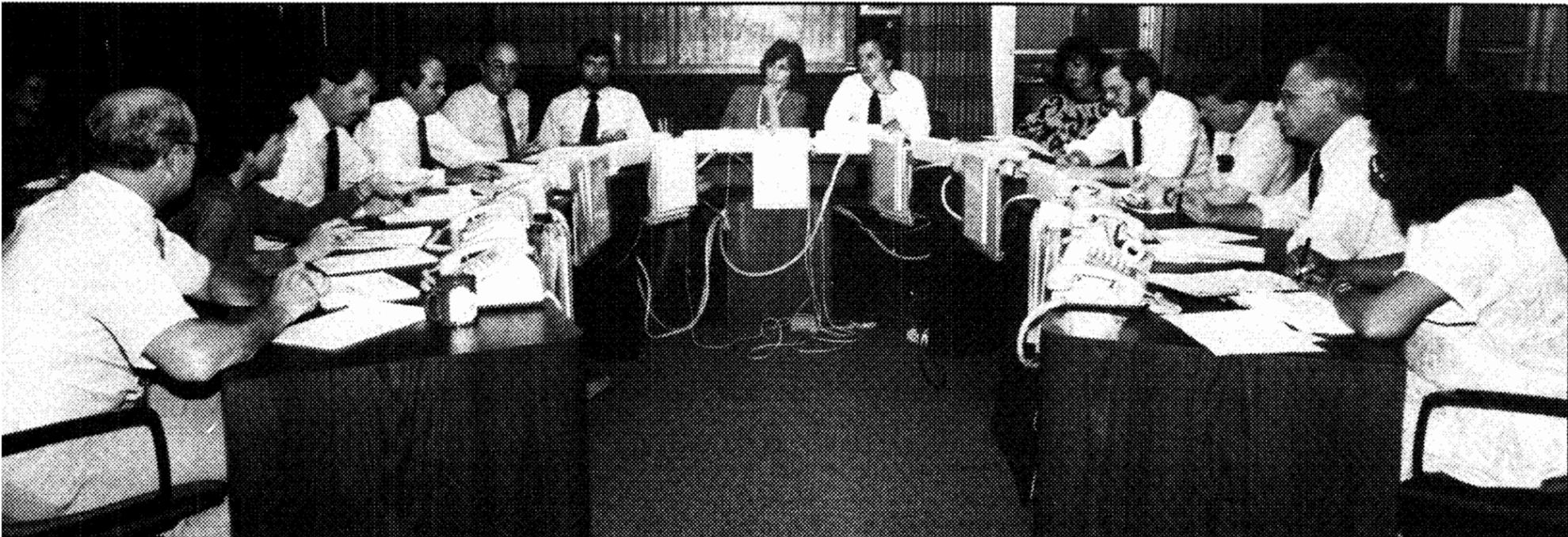
serve as point of contact in the event of a catastrophe.

The second challenge is determining the appropriate U.S. response. This often requires the deployment of Disaster Area Survey Teams (DAST), consisting of engineers, medical specialists, and water and telecommunications experts.

Working closely with local officials, the team determines the extent of the disaster and the specific emergency needs. Satellite imagery and high altitude photography are used to analyze damage caused by earthquakes or hurricanes. The photographs can detect damaged bridges, dams, roads or other facilities.

If emergency supplies are needed that are not available locally, OFDA provides them from regional stockpiles in Panama, Guam, Singapore, Italy and the United States. The stockpiles contain tents, blankets, cots, cooking stoves, auxiliary generators, plastic sheeting, water pumps and hand tools as well as other emergency materials. The storage facilities are manned 24 hours a day.

Also, needed supplies and services often are donated for relief efforts. For example, during the Mexico earthquake last year, a U.S. company provided magnesium light laser cutters to slice through cement to free trapped victims. This state-of-the-art technology was instrumental in saving lives. U.S. airlines such as Continental and Eastern contribute their transportation services to fly relief supplies to disaster



In the "situation room," OFDA staff members map out a strategy to combat the locust invasion.

sites. Continental alone provided more than \$700,000 worth of transportation for relief efforts in Mexico.

If donors are not found and the needed materials are not available in the stockpiles, a nationwide search is mounted for an American company that has the product available for purchase.

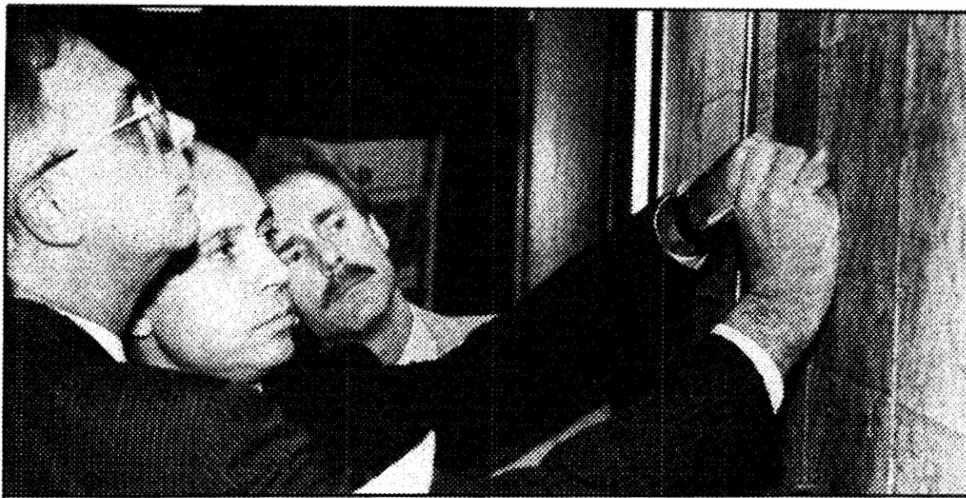
If a private supplier cannot be found, OFDA turns to the Department of Defense (DOD) as a last resort. "They generally have what we need from their reserves for war-time contingencies," says Walter "Bob" Keesecker, OFDA's disaster logistics officer.

Cyclone Namu, which hit the Solomon Islands May 19, is an example of OFDA-DOD cooperation. As a result of the storm, over 100 people died and some 1,500 were reported missing; 90,000 were left without food and 60,000 were homeless. Communications equipment was needed urgently to establish radio contact with outlying islands to assess damage and needs. The Department of Defense provided military reserve radios from Okinawa, and six marines were sent to establish a radio system on the islands.

"As a result, we knew where to send water purifiers and other emergency relief equipment," Keesecker points out. The United States provided nearly \$1 million in supplies, personnel and transportation costs to assist cyclone Namu victims.

Often special expertise provided by geologists, hydrologists, foresters, health care professionals and others is needed to cope with specific emergency situations. OFDA finds the right people for the job and gets them on-site as rapidly as possible.

For example, search and rescue operations had to be mounted to locate victims trapped in fallen buildings after the Mexican quake. OFDA located dog teams at a search and rescue convention in Nashville, Tenn., and rushed them to Mexico. When a cyclone hit Mozambique in 1984 and damaged the Maputo water works, OFDA found a water engineer in South Carolina fluent in Portuguese who also had worked on the Maputo



Following the eruption of the Nevado del Ruiz volcano last year, (from left) Fred Cole, OFDA assistant director, Colombia Ambassador Rodrigo Lloreda and Malcolm Butler, deputy assistant administrator of the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, determine the best relief routes to the affected area.

water works. He was in Mozambique within 36 hours.

"We were always there when it counted," Taft says. "We have helped out in almost every major disaster in the last two decades." In 1970, the worst cyclone of the 20th century hit the coastal regions and islands of East Bengal in what was then East Pakistan. The death toll reached 300,000. The United States provided \$19 million worth of food and supplies to the victims, or more than half that provided by all other nations combined.

In 1971, when civil strife erupted in East Pakistan leading to the creation of the nation of Bangladesh, 200,000 were killed and more than 10 million displaced. The United States provided \$34 million in relief assistance. In 1972, three violent tremors shook Managua, Nicaragua. More than half of the city was reduced to rubble. Over 10,000 were killed. U.S. assistance for relief and rehabilitation totalled some \$28 million. Four years later, an even more devastating quake shook Guatemala. Close to 23,000 perished, and 64% of that country's population was affected. The U.S. government provided \$42 million in humanitarian assistance through OFDA.

Perhaps the largest and most complex relief operation ever mounted

was for the 1984-85 African drought and famine. Many of the affected people were in remote areas where there were few roads or trucks to deliver supplies. Unloading grain at port facilities often was time-consuming. In some areas, such as in the Ethiopian provinces of Eritrea and Tigre, guerrilla war further exacerbated the situation.

"Sometimes creative solutions had to be found to get food to those who needed it most," says Tim Knight, OFDA's Africa Division chief. For example, in June 1985, the United States provided a 60-ton capacity raft to ferry emergency provisions across the Niger River to supply a stricken region in Mali. The ferry that had been used to reach the area was being repaired. The U.S. raft provided a lifeline for 120 days until the regular ferry could resume operations.

In another instance, surplus locomotives were obtained from Brazil to transport food in the Sudan. "They had the same gauge and could be obtained at a reasonable price," Knight notes.

Despite the many logistical hardships faced in the delivery of food and non-food aid, U.S. assistance enabled millions of people to receive life-sustaining support. U.S. assistance translated to \$2.5 billion,

including six million metric tons of food. The United States supplied more than half of all food shipped to Africa.

OFDA coordinated an 11-member interagency task force to manage the complex African famine relief effort. Close liaison was maintained with a large number of private voluntary groups and international organizations.

U.S. assistance was well received in Africa. "Everybody knows that the food came from the people of the United States. In some areas, sorghum, which is slightly red in color, is called 'Red Reagan,'" Knight says. In western Sudan, where it is considered a great privilege to have a child bear one's name, a number of village children still are being named after President Reagan and Vice President Bush in honor of America's life-saving relief effort.

Time is changing the tenor of OFDA's job. "We are seeing more and more man-made technological disasters," says Cole. The Union Carbide gas leak in Bhopal, India, killed and injured thousands in 1984.

To help deal with the impact of the Bhopal tragedy, AID financed a medical team that established epidemiological surveillance of the exposed population and determined the nature, location and extent of those affected. The team advised the government of India on the clinical treatment needed and on the environmental effect of the leak.

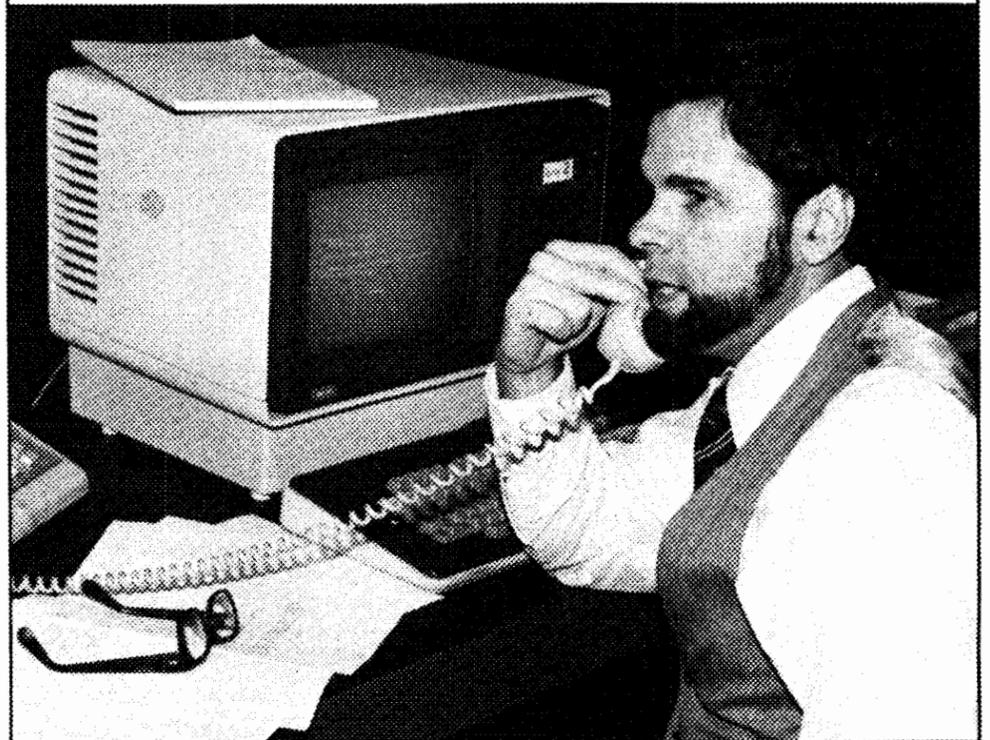
Bhopal called attention to the fact that many chemical plants, petrochemical operations and other industrial complexes in the developing world do not have effective systems to prevent disasters or to ensure the safety of the people in the area in the event of an accident.

As a result, a pilot project was set up to enable U.S. corporations to send experts to industrial facilities in developing nations to improve or create new systems that will prevent or respond to industrial accidents. The U.S. experts are training local staff in emergency response management.

OFDA applies the principles of
(continued on page 10)



By maintaining the office's files, Administrative Operations Assistants Doris Peacock (left) and Pamela Foster ensure that OFDA has quick access to information when disasters strike.



Oliver Davidson, OFDA Operations Division chief: "The first challenge we face is to figure out exactly what happened."

SECTOR COUNCILS' REPORT

LAND TENURE POLICIES AFFECT AGRICULTURE PRODUCTIVITY, RURAL POVERTY

A country's land tenure policies can have broad, long-term and often unanticipated effects on agricultural production and rural poverty. This major conclusion was reaffirmed at a recent Agency-wide discussion of land markets and land rights sponsored by the Rural Development Sector Council.

Four experts from the World Bank and the Land Tenure Center at the University of Wisconsin made presentations at the meeting. Hans Binswanger of the World Bank and John Bruce of the Land Tenure Center explained how land-titling projects can provide a legal basis to existing but insecure land rights. They also reviewed the results of World Bank and AID-funded research on land titling. Bruce said that land titling in Thailand has increased incentives for agricultural production by providing more secure

land rights and easier access to credit.

On the other hand, in countries such as Kenya, sophisticated land titling and land-registration systems have become inoperable. The costly and cumbersome legal mechanisms and flawed land policies such as minimum parcel size often discourage farmers from using the land registers.

Binswanger explained that although extensive worldwide research indicates that small farms are more productive than large ones, government regulations, policies and attitudes often prevent farmers from using land-tenure markets. Productive small farmers would gain more access to land through functioning land-tenure markets, he said. Such markets also would encourage leasing of large, less-productive farms to small farmers in parcels.

Jeff Lewis of the World Bank de-

scribed an ambitious nationwide program in Burkina Faso to prevent environmental degradation. Using land rights as an inducement for better land management, the program will establish a land-use committee in each of the country's 7,000 villages. Proper soil conservation as well as land-use rights will be the village committee's responsibility.

Randy Stringer of the Land Tenure Center described several new AID mission projects that focus on land sales rather than rental markets. Projects in Ecuador and other Latin American and Caribbean countries will lend money to small farmers to purchase land commercially.

Preliminary experience indicates that increased agricultural production and improved rural welfare can be expected from such projects.

However, Binswanger called the audience's attention to a major problem caused by sales markets: Commercial land purchases often lead farmers into debt that is beyond their repayment capacity. Binswanger indicated that this problem can be avoided by targeting farmers who can

make substantial down payments or by including some grant financing in the sales package.

For additional details, contact David Atwood, S&T/RD, (703) 235-8860.

Books Needed

The Bookfair is in need of donations of hardcover and paperback books, according to Bente Littlewood, Bookfair director.

"The supply of books now is unusually low," Littlewood said. "There is a particular need for non-fiction and foreign language books." Stamps and artwork in prime condition also are needed.

The bookroom, located in room 1524 of the State Department, is open from 2 to 3 p.m. daily, except Wednesday.

All contributions to Bookfair are tax deductible.

For more information, call Barbara Huso at 223-5796.

OFDA

From page 9, column 4

"prediction, preparedness and planning" to disasters. Advanced technology is used for prediction and early warning. Training programs are conducted to build self-reliance in preparing for disasters and in planning relief operations.

"Early warning of an impending natural disaster can mean the difference between life and death, particularly in highly populated vulnerable areas," says Paul Krumpke, OFDA's technical advisor. Bangladesh, for example, the world's most densely populated nation, is struck regularly by storms that spawn over the Indian Ocean and sweep inland. In the last 20 years, the nation has been hit by 28 major cyclones affecting some 107 million people and causing more than \$900 million in damage.

When the 1970 cyclone hit the Bay of Bengal claiming 300,000 lives, there was no early warning system in place. In May 1985 another cyclone hit. But the situation was different. OFDA had helped the government of Bangladesh develop an early warning system. The storm was tracked four days before it struck. Warnings were broadcast. The death toll of 10,000 was significantly less than the devastation that would have occurred had there been no early warning. The casualties of the storm were primarily the squatters, migratory laborers and fishermen living in small huts or boats along the coastal islands known as "chars" who had little, if any, means of evacuation.

OFDA integrates developing nations into international information networks. For example, a collaborative effort with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is under way to develop weather/crop impact assessments by

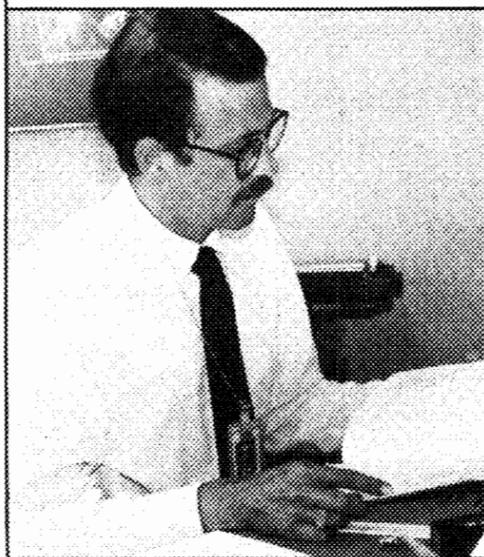
using regional rainfall data, satellite pictures and field crop reports. NOAA collects and interprets the data for use by decision makers.

Climatic impact statements are then prepared that forecast crop surpluses or shortfalls as much as 30 to 60 days prior to harvest. Krumpke emphasizes that this can provide a three-to-six month lead time on determining probabilities of food shortages.

These climatic impact statements now are produced for more than 400 locales throughout the subtropics. In Africa, this technology will be particularly effective in the future for forecasting famine.

In earthquake-prone Central America, OFDA has upgraded seismic monitoring systems in Costa Rica, Panama, El Salvador and Guatemala. Colombia was assisted in developing self-sufficiency in monitoring volcanoes following the eruption of the Nevado del Ruiz volcano last year.

A tsunami warning system for the



Alan Swan, OFDA assistant director for Latin America and Caribbean, studies reports concerning the Mexican earthquake.

Pacific Basin was set up in partnership with NOAA. In the past 35 years, more than 70,000 people in the Pacific Basin lost their lives to tsunamis, tidal waves caused by large earthquakes under or near the ocean floor. "The new tsunami alert system will notify potentially affected populations in ample time for residents of threatened coastal areas to flee to safety," Krumpke says.

OFDA trains officials in developing countries in specialized areas such as hazard identification, shelter management, fire fighting, airport safety and damage assessment.

"Our policy is to train the trainers. Programs are tailored to the specific needs of a particular country and the disaster in question. Every effort is made to work toward team building and institutionalizing a disaster response capability," says OFDA Training Officer Denise Decker.

In the last three years, some 600 foreign participants received training. The results already are apparent. The United States trained the first six search and rescue trainers in Venezuela several years ago. Last year, Venezuela provided 30 search and rescue professionals to help victims of the Mexico City earthquake.

Disaster preparedness and mitigation are important parts of the development process. A disaster can create conditions constraining economic growth. For example, the 1972 Nicaraguan earthquake wiped out 6.5% of the nation's GNP (Gross National Product) in a few short minutes. "It is for this reason that forethought and planning are vital, particularly in the 30 or more disaster-prone nations," Taft says.

OFDA responds to this need in a number of ways. In Jamaica, an island-wide vulnerability and hazard management study was prepared, and workshops in housing construction patterns, shelter management and airport safety were conducted. With the Jamaican Office of Disaster

Preparedness, OFDA has helped develop hurricane awareness programs in elementary and secondary schools. In Haiti, a regional disaster coordinator was identified, and fire-fighting and medical relief training was provided to Haitian airport personnel.

"There is some concern that a major earthquake will strike near Caracas, Venezuela, in the next few years," says Taft. "We are already assisting the government to review housing codes and to examine heights of buildings in an effort to make them more stress-resistant."

OFDA is in the business of saving lives and provides humanitarian aid without regard to a nation's political or economic system. This generation of goodwill sometimes reaps unexpected rewards.

"A few years ago, there was a disaster in Algeria. At the time, U.S. relations with that country were strained," Taft explains. "OFDA responded. Later, the Algerians were particularly helpful in getting U.S. hostages out of Iran."

OFDA—born of America's generosity and goodwill—is a small office with a global mission. Its staff shares a common spirit of commitment. "OFDA is a very exciting place to work," says Taft. "I'm sometimes surprised that everybody at AID isn't banging on our door to work here."

OFDA's Lars Noble agrees. "It's stimulating and challenging. You really learn something new every day and have the satisfaction of knowing that what you do is making a difference."

"The United States always has been a leader in disaster relief and preparedness," Taft notes. "It is a privilege to be part of America's effort to make this a safer world."

Scriabine is the former deputy assistant administrator of the Bureau for External Affairs.

Community Involvement Key to Education

On a summer day last year, Stephen Grant, education and training officer at the Cairo mission, sat under a colorful tent alongside local Egyptian dignitaries and faced a group of 200 turbaned adult males from the village of El Ghowal, not far from Luxor. In the shadow of pharaonic ruins, the group had gathered for a new school dedication. What made the occasion especially significant was that the ancient village, inhabited since 1085 B.C., had waited 3,070 years for its first school.

"The El Ghowal school is an example of why the Basic Education project is one of the most popular AID projects in Egypt," says project manager Grant. "Every week, three new schools, complete with water and electricity, open in areas where enrollment rates are low."

Since 1981, the Agency has completed 300 schools in a construction program that plans for building over 600.

The purpose of the project is to help the government of Egypt increase access to primary (grades 1-6) and preparatory (grades 7-9) education by building badly needed rural schools, says Mission Director Frank Kimball. The \$85-million project currently reaches 10 provinces, and an amendment recently has been approved to expand the project to virtually the entire country.

"The government of Egypt and AID are in agreement about the importance of schooling for rural youth and the significant contribution of these activities to national development," says Kimball.

"From initial site selection to construction supervision and final school certification, the project is in Egyptian hands. And, while contractor delays and construction quality are pervasive problems in Egypt, Basic Education schools are going up on time and with good quality construction," Grant adds.

The concept of "Basic Education," introduced in a 1981 law, is to integrate the theoretical and applied aspects of the school program. The law extended compulsory education from six to nine years of schooling and called for a revision of all textbooks to include practical applications with theoretical knowledge.

The Egyptian government requested AID support in two specific areas: school construction and procurement of practical instructional materials, such as overhead projectors, farming tools, science kits and sewing machines.

According to Hamed Mohamed Soliman, a Ministry of Education official who has worked with AID on the project for seven years, Egypt's number one educational priority is school construction. "You can't tell a child, 'Sorry, we can't educate you because we don't have a building,'" he says.

The Egyptian government's objective is to build a sufficient number of schools to keep up with population expansion, says Grant. To assist in meeting this goal, AID chose to

begin school construction in the 10 provinces or "governorates" with the lowest enrollment rates among six-year-olds.

"Our basic premise was that the main constraint to enrollment was distance from school," Grant says. Consequently, AID agreed to build schools where there were no existing facilities within a two-kilometer radius.

An initial problem was determining the specific location of new schools. "Neither the Ministry of Education nor the governorates knew precisely where existing schools were located in relation to population density," Grant explains. "Realizing it was necessary to gather basic data to make rational project decisions, we first undertook a program to draw 'school maps.'"

With AID funding, Egyptian educational specialists developed a socioeconomic profile of each area under consideration and drew maps depicting the results of their analyses. Thus far, 200 maps have been completed.

Guided by the maps and reports, the Ministry of Education contacts the elected local councils in areas of low school enrollment. The councils propose construction sites, which then are reviewed by the regional governorate and central ministry for acceptability.

Once a site is agreed on, the government solicits land donations by wealthy villagers. A typical plot of land suitable for school construction covers approximately one-half acre and is valued at \$15,000 to \$20,000, says Grant.

"This is a sizeable contribution for a villager to make," he adds. "In many villages, no such wealth belongs to any one family. Therefore, villagers often donate their collectively owned thrashing land, reclaiming new land for thrashing from the nearby desert."

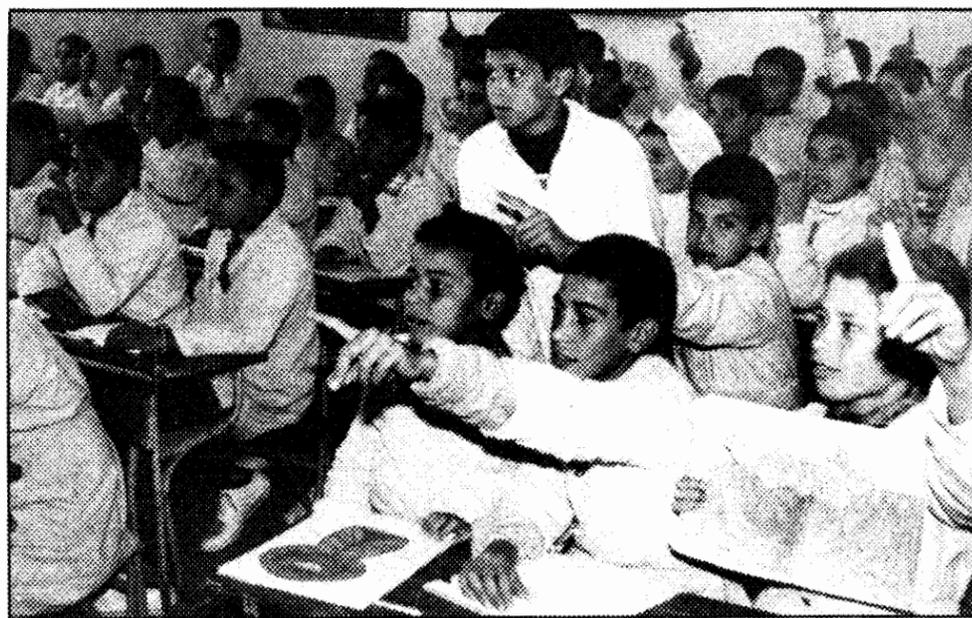
Hassan Mahmoud, a villager in the Delta who donated land for a new school, recently explained his generosity in an interview on Egyptian television: "Our village has never had a school. I didn't like the idea of our children walking three kilometers back and forth every day to the neighboring village. It was especially bad when the dirt road became mud."

Whether land is individually or collectively donated, however, Grant points out that the result provides an excellent example of local community involvement.

In addition, he says, "I have seen firsthand the sense of pride instilled in villagers for their role in bringing a new school to their community."

The building procedure begins when the housing departments in governorates or the town councils organize competition among private contractors. Engineers of the National Investment Bank, an autonomous government entity, review cost reasonableness of contractor proposals before a contract is let.

AID advances funds to the bank,



An AID-funded education project in Egypt is helping to increase rural enrollment and reduce dropout rates.

which in turn advances funds to the governorates on the basis of estimated need.

"Overall, contracting has gone very well," says Grant.

In at least one case, the progress can be attributed to the attention given the project at high political levels. Zein El Abidien Mostafa, chief of the Education Bureau in the Delta Governorate of Kafr-El-Sheikh, explains, "Our governor is an engineer. He follows the school construction closely and intervenes when there is a problem."

"The schools are coeducational," says Grant, "with boys and girls in the same classroom, although on separate sides of the room. Of the 40 to 50 pupils in a room, perhaps a third are girls."

Evaluation research undertaken by Creative Associates of Washington, D.C., which has followed the Basic Education project from its start, indicates that the AID-financed school construction has led to an increase in the enrollment of six-year-olds by 13% in the project areas, exceeding the project goal of 9%. This represents an increase of 11% in enrollment of boys and 16% in enrollment of girls, according to Grant.

"Based on data gathered from 266 schools, an AID-funded school in a village has prompted on the average 37 new first-graders," he says.

Even more dramatic, he says, are the results of an intensive study of 400 households in 10 villages. In grade one, enrollment of boys increased 11%, from 89% to 100%, and girls' enrollment increased 46%, from 49% to 95%.

In addition to increasing initial enrollment, increased access to schools has also reduced dropout rates, says Grant. The evaluators report that dropout rates in grades two to six have decreased by 7% the first year.

"Once we get children in school, the important thing is to keep them there at least until they become functionally literate," Grant says. "To accomplish this, we are assisting to improve the quality of instruction by providing practical instructional

materials, such as sewing machines and science kits, for the classrooms so that students can apply their theoretical knowledge."

"One way I judge the significance of a project is to look at the level of host government commitment," adds Kimball. "The Ministry of Education is totally behind this project."

"In monetary terms, the government of Egypt is contributing 161% of the amount stipulated in the Project Agreement—\$127 million rather than \$79 million. The \$85 million AID has provided for school construction has stimulated the Egyptians to build far more classrooms out of their own resources than have been built with AID funds," he adds.

"A school building in a village is a respected edifice, like a mosque," explains Soliman. "Some parents have their traditions and don't yet want to send all their children, especially girls, to school. But that is today."

"These traditions are changing. Before too long, these same parents will want all their children to have a place in school," he says.

One parent who exemplifies the changing times is Mohamed Tahoun, a villager in the Delta Governorate, whose five children attend the local AID-funded school.

"Before, only my boys went to school. The school was three kilometers away, and I didn't want my daughters to be out after dark. My girls stayed home and helped their mother."

"Now they try to teach their mother some of the things they learn at school, like sewing, . . . and say they want to be a teacher or a doctor," he says.

Such support for the project at both the local and national level is what makes his job so rewarding, says Grant. "The project's impact on enrollment has been immediate and dramatic," he says. "But to me, just as impressive has been the demonstration of the Egyptian people's commitment to improving their lives."

—USAID/Egypt

Wheelchair Benefits Third World Disabled

by Arleen Richman

In Tegucigalpa, Honduras, even experienced wheelchair users like Ralf Hotchkiss and Carlos Gonzalez consider it challenging to roll along the partially paved streets of this mountainous Central American capital. However, because of their specially designed wheelchairs that hug the ground, whether they are dodging potholes, maneuvering past buses or jumping down curbs, that challenge is made easier.

Hotchkiss has spent four years designing, testing and redesigning wheelchairs. His work is supported by a grant from Appropriate Technology International (ATI) through a \$534,000 project funded by AID's Bureau for Science and Technology, Office of Research and Development.

These stable, sturdy, strong wheelchairs seem appropriate to the uneven rugged terrain found in many countries in the Third World. The only obstacles the chairs and the users cannot surmount are the considerable distances—eight inches or more—between street and curb levels. Help is needed to lift the chairs onto the curb.

"This is one of the advantages of having a lightweight chair, and why I believe that all wheelchairs need push handles," explained Hotchkiss.

In designing the ATI-Hotchkiss wheelchairs, he refused to compromise on two factors—strength and weight. The chair itself contains features found in both working and racing chairs. But, he emphasized, "I wasn't satisfied until I was able to get a chair 10 pounds lighter than current models, with the strength and durability to navigate the rough surfaces common to most of the Third World."

Hotchkiss, a U.S. engineer who

previously worked in the California aerospace industry, has been designing alternative wheelchairs for almost two decades ever since he was paralyzed in a motorcycle accident. He and Gonzalez, one of his best former students, were in Tegucigalpa to train a team of six disabled Hondurans to construct the ATI-Hotchkiss wheelchair.

The small workshop, located in the city's outskirts and operated by the Honduran Foundation for Integration of Handicapped Persons (FUHRIL), is one of 12 such workshops in six Latin American countries. All are financed through ATI, a Washington-based, not-for-profit development assistance organization.

Once the workshop is operational, it will produce an estimated 16 chairs a month. Making the ATI-Hotchkiss chair is labor-intensive—it takes about 30 to 40 hours of work to build each chair. For that reason, Hotchkiss explained, it usually is nine to 12 months before a workshop begins to show a profit.

The first month concentrates on training; the next several months are spent in refining the production and producing trial wheelchairs, which are sold at a lower cost or distributed for field testing, he continued.

"Of course there are exceptions to this rule of thumb," recalled Hotchkiss. "In Paraguay, it took only six months from the day they rented workshop space until they made a profit—a remarkably short start-up time for any business."

Hotchkiss anticipates a longer than usual start-up time for the FUHRIL workshop. Although the six disabled workers are highly motivated, he said, they are less experienced than other groups he has instructed. "They never have worked on anything resembling an assembly line," he said.



Making the ATI-Hotchkiss wheelchairs is labor-intensive—it takes 30 to 40 hours of work to build each chair. The average workshop produces 16 chairs a month.

Actually, the Hondurans being trained have almost no work experience whatsoever—except for seasonal jobs. All of the workers in this workshop are physically handicapped, even the administrative manager, a certified public accountant who previously had been employed.

They were selected mainly on the basis of their desire to work and to become self-sufficient, said Mike McGee, a Peace Corps volunteer working with FUHRIL. They will be paid a minimum salary, equivalent to the average Honduran salary, and a bonus based on production.

He said that even after just a few days of training, the workers demonstrated confidence and self-esteem and began to set higher goals for themselves.

This opportunity to be useful and productive is even more important in Third World countries than in the developed nations, added McGee, because the handicapped in the developing world generally are excluded from many activities "we take for granted—such as attending school and getting a job."

By making available a detailed production manual, a series of computer video training films and a standardized tooling kit, which is either sold or loaned to participating enterprises, ATI expects to disseminate the technology worldwide.

The wheelchair's standard design can be customized to an individual's disability and body size. Hotchkiss's design innovations—a swing-away footrest, lockable parking brakes and a special armrest to allow easy transfer in and out of the chair—enhance the wheelchair's balance and maneuverability and reduce the complexity of construction. In addition, the compact chair is portable, can be folded to fit on the back of a donkey or on top of a bus and can be repaired locally.

Because it can be built in developing countries for a cost of approximately \$80 for materials, plus labor and overhead, the price of this wheelchair is competitive with the cost of other heavier, more confining, locally-made wheelchairs. It is also

far less expensive than costly imports, which break down frequently and for which replacement parts generally cannot be obtained.

Until now, most disabled persons living in the Third World have had to do without wheelchairs. "In my country, Guatemala, only one-third of potential wheelchair riders have access to a chair of any kind," noted Gonzalez.

A champion wheelchair racer who won first prize in several categories in the Juegos Nacionales (Guatemala's Special Olympics), Gonzalez plans to open his own workshop later this year. He and his partner have pledged to set aside part of their profits in a separate fund to provide loans to potential customers.

FUHRIL, too, hopes to establish a revolving loan fund and to upgrade the enterprise so that it will be able to provide wheelchair repairs, trade-ins, rentals and even other related mobility devices—such as walkers.

But that is several years in the future, explained McGee. "It will take several years just to fill the back-orders for the ATI-Hotchkiss chair," he noted.

A feasibility study conducted by the Central Bank in Honduras showed an immediate need for 500 affordable, sturdy, mobile wheelchairs. "And, these chairs only represent orders from hospitals, private clinics and rehabilitation institutions," added McGee. "We haven't even begun to publicize this product yet."

He said that in Tegucigalpa only one hotel, one supermarket, and one hospital have incorporated special access adaptations for wheelchairs.

Hotchkiss, Gonzalez and McGee agreed that the ATI-Hotchkiss wheelchairs will free many persons living in the developing world from the confines of their homes, help them to become economically independent and improve the quality of their lives.

Richman is assistant to the executive director of administration of Appropriate Technology International.



Carlos Gonzalez maneuvers the sturdy wheelchair over the uneven, rugged terrain common to many countries of the developing world.

RETIRED

Donald Atwell, program officer, FVA/PPE/POE, after 31 years

Anson Bertrand, Agency director food and agriculture, S&T/FA, after 3 years

Ralph Bird, supervisory engineering officer, ANE/PD/ENGR, after 18 years

Wally Bowles, engineering officer, LAC/DR, after 19 years

Norman Brookens, property utilization officer, M/SER/AAM/GPR, after 18 years

Emma Celhay, general services officer, COMP/DS-JAO, after 22 years

Charles Connolly, supervisory private enterprise officer, RDO/C/PS, after 22 years

Frank Correll, mission director, Sri Lanka/D, after 26 years

Bernard Donnelly, supervisory engineering officer, Jordan/E, after 22 years

James Feeney, program operations specialist, FVA/FFP/PO, after 28 years

William Follen, supervisory computer system analyst, M/SER/IRM/WPS, after 21 years

Jerome French, mission director, Haiti/D, after 23 years

Bernice Goldstein, program analyst, LAC/DP/MA, after 16 years

Durlene Hamilton, executive assistant, Yemen/EXO, after 25 years

Lawrence Heilman, supervisory general development officer, COMP/FS/DS, after 18 years

Brenda Hsu, administrative aide, AA/AFR, after 20 years

Christina Leboworth, executive assistant, Tunisia/D, after 16 years

Hilda Newcomb, clerk stenographer, FVA/FFP/II/LAC, after 10 years

Marianne Priebe, supervisory personnel officer, M/PM/FSP/AB/SS, after 20 years

Jerry Rann, agricultural development officer, Tanzania, after 6 years

Marian Salay, personnel officer, M/PM/FSP/AB/AM, after 23 years

Alice Shimomura, program officer, ANE/DP/PA, after 18 years

David Tiedt, project development officer, ANE/PD/EA, after 18 years

Eugene Treasrau, supervisory auditor, RIG/Nairobi, after 19 years

Years indicate AID service only.

PROMOTED

Jay Bergman, M/SER/OP/W/FA, supervisory contract specialist

Tindara Bilmanis, LAC/EMS, information analyst

Susan Bugg, ANE/PD/PCS, supervisory program analyst

Diane Carter, SCI/OD, program operations assistant

Colette Claude Cowey, AFR/DP/PPE, economist

Regina Deadwyler, M/PM/ADM, clerk typist

Laverne Drummond, SDB/OD, supervisory general business specialist minority

Patrick Fleuret, AFR/DP/PPE, social science analyst

Tracy Renee Ford, M/SER/IRM/PE, clerk typist

WHERE? IN THE WORLD ARE AID EMPLOYEES

Toraanna Francis, LAC/DR/HN, secretary typist

Linda Levine, ANE/E, secretary typist

Carmelita Maness-Blakney, LAC/DR, secretary stenographer

Frankie McLean, S&T/PO/PR, information analyst

Lorraine Morton, PPC/EMS, administrative officer

J.L. Parmer II, FVA/PVC, special assistant

Daniel Riley, M/SER/IRM/MPS, computer specialist

Barbara Shelton, PPC/DC/DAC, administrative operations assistant

Angela Shivers, AA/AFR, administrative operations assistant

Catherine Stalcup, M/PM/CSP/SER, clerk typist

Patricia Stewart, M/SER/OP/PS/SUP, program operations specialist

Lawrence Tanner, PPC/PB/CPA, supervisory program analyst

Patricia Toner, LAC/EMS, information analyst

REASSIGNED

Elizabeth Borcik, management analyst, ANE/EMS, to personnel staffing specialist, M/PM/FSP/AB/AM

Timothy Bork, legal officer, GC/AFR, to mission director, Republic of South Africa

Paul Cohn, health development officer, AFR/TR/H, to health/population development officer, AFR/TR/HPN

Robert Dakan, supervisory rural development officer, Indonesia, to program officer, ANE/SA/PAK

Phyllis Leslie Dichter, deputy mission director, COMP, to director, AFR/SWA

George Eaton, director, S&T/PO, to mission director, Mauritania

Gerald Gerhard Graf, program officer, AFR/SWA/NBFCV, to supervisory program officer, AFR/DP/PAB

W. Colleen Harris, secretary, AFR/CCWA, to executive assistant, PPC

Allison Butler Herrick, deputy assistant administrator, AA/PPC, to mission director, Zimbabwe

Leonard Jameson Jr., data management officer, Egypt, to computer system analyst, M/SER/IRM/WMS

Grace Mayberry, executive assistant, Guinea-Bissau, to secretary, AFR/CCWA

Arlan McSwain, special projects officer, AFR/RA/P-I, to agricultural development officer, AFR/TR/ARD/FS

Richard Metcalfe, population development officer, AFR/TR/P, to health/population development officer, AFR/TR/HPN

Ted Morse, deputy regional director, COMP, to mission director, Zambia

David Mutchler, program officer, ANE/SA/PAK, to supervisory program officer, RDO/Caribbean

Richard Nelson, program officer, Burma, to program officer LAC/CAP

Donald Reilly, supervisory general development officer, AFR/TR, to supervisory special projects officer, AFR/TR/PRO

Charles Rheingans, supervisory general development officer, M/PM/FSP/CDE, to supervisory rural development officer, Philippines

Virginia Sewell, population development officer, S&T/POP/FPS, to health/population development officer, ANE/TR/PHN

Satishchandra Shah, supervisory project development officer, AFR/PD/SWA, to deputy regional director, REDSO/E&S AFR

Richard Steelman, project development officer, LAC/DR/CP, to supervisory project development officer, Guatemala

John Thomas, health development officer, AFR/TR/H, to health/

population development officer, AFR/TR/HPN

Gerold Vandervlugt, supervisory health development officer physician, AFR/TR/H, to supervisory health/population development officer, physician, AFR/TR/HPN

Linda White, program operations specialist, PPC/PDPR/SI, to program analyst, S&T/ED

Adolph Wilburn, supervisory human resources development officer, Egypt, to education development officer, S&T/RUR

Lily Willens, international cooperation specialist, AFR/EA/STIOS, to special assistant, AA/AFR

MOVED ON

Maureen Butler, S&T/H/HS

Henry Curry, AA/M

Cynthia Gilbert, S&T/POP/IT

Oleatha Greenette, COMP

Guthrie Gullion, AFR/MGT/MISR

Travis Horel, PPC/PDPR/SI

Tara Lynn Horne, COMP

David Lockhart, India

Doris Mason Martin, GC

Paul Masock, M/SER/OP/GPR

Walter Mayo, M/SER/MO/CRM/M

Leslie Murrill, COMP

Paul Olkhovsky, XA/PR

Alma Pabst, COMP

Margaret Petchock, IG/EMS

Donald Pressley, Egypt

Cathy Smith, COMP

Michael Stone, AA/LAC

Thelmetria Turner, COMP

Lawrence Young, M/SER/MO/CPM/M

U.S. Commitment to Indonesia Still Strong



Although budgetary pressures and spending cuts imposed by Gramm-Rudman-Hollings have forced a reduction in overall aid levels for Indonesia, U.S. commitment to Indonesian development remains strong, according to Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Asia and Near East Charles Greenleaf, Jr.

Greenleaf and other U.S. delegates joined donor representatives from 15 industrialized nations and eight multilateral organizations at the annual meeting of the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI) held at the Hague in June. Greenleaf told the group that the Agency has requested \$74 million for economic development assistance for Indonesia in fiscal 1987.

The fiscal 1987 assistance program consists of \$55 million in development assistance, \$15 million in P.L. 480 Title I and \$4 million in Title II. In addition, Indonesia will receive Agency financing for centrally initiated activities in health, population, education and the private sector.

In his remarks before the IGGI, Greenleaf called on the members to work with Indonesia in addressing

the "strategic longer-term issues that are likely to affect Indonesia's capacity to ultimately resume a higher level economic growth path and that will adequately and productively employ its people."

According to Greenleaf, the Agency has taken the lead in "ensuring that the donor coordination meeting concentrate on policy questions and on program implementation issues."

The total of all donor pledges to Indonesia comes to \$2.5 billion, exceeding the World Bank target of \$2.4 billion.

Since 1967, IGGI has coordinated all of Indonesia's bilateral and multilateral economic assistance funds.

Because of the drastic cuts in the government of Indonesia's budget due to falling oil prices, the Agency also will seek ways to increase local financing for projects.

Members of the IGGI encouraged the Indonesian government to proceed with policy reforms that increase production, promote domestic savings and foreign investments, reduce protective barriers from imports and expand non-oil exports.

—Marlies Backhaus

REACHing for an Immunization Strategy

 Until recently, nearly five million children died every year from diseases that could be prevented by immunization. Measles and neonatal tetanus (preventable by immunizing women) accounted for 75% of those deaths.

Although some children who are at risk still are not being reached, many young lives now are saved through Expanded Programs for Immunization (EPI).

The number of child deaths being prevented is estimated at almost one million every year, and worldwide demand for vaccines has tripled since 1983. However, much more remains to be accomplished—particularly in institutionalizing immunization delivery systems.

The United States has committed itself to an international collaborative effort to develop a sustained capacity to immunize the world's children. In January, Administrator Peter McPherson approved an Agency Strategy for Immunization, which focuses on immunizing children under the age of one.

The strategy calls for immunizing children and child-bearing age women against the six preventable diseases (measles, tetanus, whooping cough, diphtheria, tuberculosis and polio), with special emphasis on measles vaccine for infants and tetanus toxoid for women. Because



The number of child deaths being prevented is estimated at almost one million every year. Worldwide demand for vaccines has tripled since 1983.

of management and logistics problems in developing countries, use of these vaccines has remained limited despite their potential in saving children's lives.

This year AID launched a new effort in support of immunization

programs. A five-year, \$17 million Resources for Child Health (REACH) project was awarded to John Snow Inc., a Boston-based consulting firm, in collaboration with a consortium of health-oriented organizations.

The project provides technical assistance to strengthen the primary health care systems of developing countries for delivery of key technologies for disease control with emphasis on immunization.

The project also focuses on health care financing issues that are an important component of EPI programs. Technical assistance is available to AID missions, host countries, private voluntary organizations and other donor groups.

Selection criteria in choosing countries for the REACH project include current infant mortality and immunization rates, demographic size, potential for host country commitment and institutional development, and donor involvement.

In coordination with other donors, practical country-specific plans will be developed to carry out the comprehensive EPI programs and to improve the country's infrastructure to sustain the program.

Examples of REACH immunization assistance include:

- Developing national immunization strategies in AID-assisted countries, including information campaigns;
- Developing immunization components of AID project identification documents and project papers;
- Recommending financing approaches based on economic analyses for immunization programs;
- Assisting private and public organizations in developing their immunization activities;
- Providing technical assistance for and evaluating the implementation of immunization programs; and,
- Providing technical information on immunization.

For further information, contact Robert Clay, S&T/H (703)235-9649 or the REACH Project, 1100 Wilson Blvd., 9th Floor, Arlington, Va. 22209, (703) 528-7474.



CDIE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

NEW SERVICE PROVIDES DATA TO MISSIONS

Finding the best way to provide statistical data to missions that lack quick access to a variety of information sources has been one of the Agency's pressing tasks.

In response to this search, the Center for Development Information and Evaluation (CDIE) recently designed and set up a diskette service to give missions instant access to country-specific economic and social data.

The diskette service provides a comprehensive database that enables mission staff to perform a wide variety of analyses in their program studies. The system contains all available information for a country from a particular database over an extensive period of time.

The most often requested database and the first to be tested for the Agency's diskette service is the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) *International Financial Statistics* (IFS). Due to the large number of requests for this kind of information, especially by AID economists, this service will be expanded to include data from other sources including the World Bank, United Nations and

other IMF resources.

The diskette service was started because mission staffs wanted their own mini-databases. In the past, mission personnel had to send requests for information to Washington, D.C., and then wait for the return of that data.

The diskettes are easy to use and store and provide a quick way to get economic data. The IFS information, for example, is divided into annual, monthly and quarterly data files. In addition, the diskettes can be used with Wang, IBM and IBM-compatible personal computers and are available in several file formats including Lotus 1-2-3, DBASE III and SAS-PC.

Initial responses to the service have been favorable both in Washington and in the missions. For instance, after a diskette service presentation by two CDIE representatives at a conference in Costa Rica, AID economists from various missions in Central America ordered the system for their use.

Persons who would like to subscribe to the diskette service should contact CDIE, room 208C, SA-18, (703)235-3945.

Relief Workers Prone to Disaster-Related Illness



Irritability, anger, fatigue and intestinal complaints are some of the after-effects experienced by disaster relief workers. In some cases, these conditions develop into long-term problems such as alcoholism, depression or withdrawal.

In recognition of the severity of disaster-related illnesses, the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) recently addressed the topic at two separate meetings in May and July as part of its continuing education program.

Physicians refer to the emotional and physical responses brought on by the stress of crisis situations as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Studies previously addressed the condition as it affected war combatants and victims of disaster. It is evident now that relief workers, too, suffer from PTSD.

Although not dealing with the personal loss of life or property, relief workers are exposed to massive death and destruction. In addition, they work long hours in an unfamiliar

and sometimes dangerous environment and deal with the frustration of not being able to do enough.

Embassy staffs at a disaster site, task force groups and persons manning the rescue operation center also are likely to show signs of PTSD.

OFDA first became concerned about PTSD in responding to the earthquake in Mexico City and the volcano eruption in Colombia. Both disaster situations involved sending U.S. professionals into areas of large-scale destruction and human suffering.

During the Mexico City earthquake, a psychologist debriefed search and rescue personnel on their return to the United States.

The Foreign Service Institute is developing a series of videocassettes to help embassy staffs cope with stress in crisis situations. In addition, the foreign service community will address ways of preventing, mitigating and following through on the treatment of stress-related problems.

—Renee Bafalis



The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development's Joint Committee on Agricultural Research and Development conducted a dialogue on the Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP) June 23-24.

The CRSP, the first grant program organized under Title XII legislation, involves U.S. universities with host countries in food crop research projects.

The participants discussed issues ranging from the design and concept of the CRSPs to the emphasis and balance in technology transfer carried out through CRSPs to the

BIFAD Conducts Research Dialogue

relationships between non-AID countries and the CRSPs.

The dialogue was held at the request of a group of university representatives involved in CRSPs. About 50 representatives from AID and Title XII universities participated in the two-day meeting.

Clarence Gray, a former AID foreign service officer who now is with Virginia Polytechnic Institute

and State University, attended the meeting as an authority in international agricultural research.

Gray discussed the importance of the CRSP program in foreign policy, the long-term nature of its goals (socioeconomic development) and the benefits of the program, including access to germ plasma, development of vaccines and better domestic research, training and education

programs.

Gray also cited several areas needing improvement in the CRSPs. For instance, Gray said better communication was needed among CRSP participants, particularly in respect to defining the roles of AID, university and host country parties.

In addition, increased integration of CRSP research with host country programs and greater cooperation among agricultural research centers, other assistance donors and CRSPs were pinpointed by Gray as changes that could be made to make the entire program more effective.

—John Stovall

Retirement System Changing

A new retirement system for federal employees hired after January 1984 has been created through the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986. Signed June 6 by President Reagan, the act takes effect in January 1987.

Federal employees under the current Civil Service Retirement System

may elect to be covered by the new program. AID's Office of Personnel Management will disseminate information on the new retirement plan in the near future.

DIRECT DEPOSIT AVOIDS DELAYS

Get your money fast, easy, electronically and with no risk of theft or loss. Even get a guaranteed salary credit on payday. How? With Direct Deposit—Electronic Funds Transfer, simply known as DD/EFT.

DD/EFT is the U.S. Department of Treasury's system to eliminate routine check preparation by elec-

tronically transferring federal employees' salaries to federal reserve banks. In turn, the banks electronically submit the funds directly to an employee's financial institution for credit.

The electronic transfer system has proven so successful that Treasury expanded the system in 1984 to transfer savings to financial institutions and now is making plans to use the method to handle salary deposits to mutual or money market fund accounts.

Employees cannot enjoy the conveniences of DD/EFT if they receive their paycheck at the office or at home. Slow mail service and inclement weather are two of the many

ways that a conventional paycheck can be delayed.

If you want to bank the electronic way with DD/EFT, see the manager of your financial institution and request Form 1199A.

The form, also available from AID's Office of Distribution, needs to be assigned a DD/EFT routing number by the financial organization and signed by a bank representative before it can be processed.

Forward the completed 1199A forms to AID, M/FM/ESD, room 506, SA-12, Washington, D.C. 20523.

—Marge Nannes

Oversight Board Reviews Progress

Affirmative action goals for fiscal 1986, bureau and office goals and future Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and affirmative action directions were the subjects addressed at the June 26 meeting of the EEO Oversight Board.

"Although we have made progress in the recruitment of minorities and women, much remains to be done," said Counselor to the Agency Marshall Brown in opening remarks.

Chairing the meeting on behalf of Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris, Brown said, "During this period of budgetary restraints and the difficult times ahead, we should look inside and do our best to work with our existing staff as a means of providing opportunities in employment to minorities and women."

Dennis Diamond, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs (EOP), briefed the board on how the Agency-wide affirmative action hiring goals were set for fiscal 1986. "These goals," said Diamond, "are based on U.S. census detailed occupational data 'crossed' into federal job categories.

"The 'cross-walk' gave the Agency an objective basis by which to set realistic and achievable goals, and it provided both the external and internal availability rates for each sex-specific race and national origin group as well as the degree of under-

representation for each of the groups.

"Fiscal 1986 is a transition year," continued Diamond, "and the goals established are the minimum that could be set, given the limited recruitment lead time and hiring opportunities projected by the Office of Personnel Management."

According to Diamond, the EEO goals established in administrative, financial, commodity and contract management positions have been or are close to being met.

This is due mainly to an adequate pool of qualified, minority applicants and to increased sensitivity on the part of the panels to EEO and affirmative action concerns," he added.

Reports on EEO and affirmative action directions for fiscal 1986 also were presented to the board, including:

- Bureaus and offices will report to EOP their fiscal 1986 accomplishments and update their EEO and affirmative action program plans, building on the preceding year's gains;
- Goals for executive-level and decision-making appointments will be based on the available slots projected by the Executive Personnel Management Staff as well as the number of candidates from the under-represented groups identified by the staff as qualified for Executive Personnel Assignment Panel consideration; and,

- Uniform EEO performance standards will be incorporated in the performance appraisal reports of all manager and supervisor personnel for the 1986-87 cycle.

AID REPRESENTED AT NAACP CONVENTION

As a way of promoting careers with AID among minority groups, the Agency participated in the 17th Annual Commerce and Industry Show, part of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples' (NAACP) 77th Annual Convention, held in Baltimore, Md., June 30-July 2.

Titled "Building Toward One Society," the convention addressed problems such as unemployment among black youth, limited educational opportunities, housing concerns and reductions in federally-funded programs.

Sens. Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. (R-Md.) and Joseph Biden, Jr. (D-Del.) and Reps. Parren Mitchell (D-Md.) and Walter Fauntroy (D-D.C.) were among the speakers at the NAACP gathering.

Persons interested in receiving copies of convention resolutions, speeches and press releases should contact the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs at (202) 663-1510, room 1217, SA-1.

—Voncile Willingham



H. Rowan Gaither (right), president of the Foreign Affairs Recreation Association (FARA) Board of Directors, looks on while Administrator Peter McPherson tries on a sweater and hat with the AID insignia. These and other items bearing the AID emblem now are available at the FARA store. FARA can ship orders overseas. Send mail order requests to FARA, room 2928, State Department, Washington, D.C. 20520.