



LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Letters by Frederic Benson. 1974

Benson, Frederic C.

[s.l.]: [s.n.], 1974

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/JMHK4QVWR6VMX8E>

This material may be protected by copyright law (Title 17, US Code).

For information on re-use see:

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.



U.S. AID MISSION
TO LAOS

EMBASSY
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

3 January 1974

VIENTIANE, LAOS

4 JAN 1974

Mr. Frederick C. Benson
Office of Refugee and Rural Affairs
USAID/Laos
Vientiane, Laos

Dear Fritz:

I wish to take this opportunity to commend you on the excellent performance you have rendered to the USAID/Laos Mission since August 1968.

As a Refugee Operations Officer on a personal services contract, you have made outstanding contributions to the Mission's refugee assistance program. Some of your many accomplishments are worthy of special mention.

1. During 1970 you participated in the development of our refugee reporting system and you were responsible centrally for the preparation and submission of the weekly statistical report until November 1971 when you were assigned to new duties at a field post. The reporting system which you helped to develop has provided continuous statistical data and has been a most important vehicle for keeping all interested parties, including AID/Washington, informed on refugee movements and status.

2. The data which you gathered together with the imaginative charts and slides you prepared on cyclical movements of refugees in northern Laos beginning with 1960 has become an important reference in the history of the refugee problem in Laos.

3. You organized and trained a competent Lao staff which was able to effectively continue the responsibilities of gathering statistical data after you were reassigned to a field post.

4. Your natural ability, excellent working relationships with Lao officials, and proficiency in the Lao language, enabled you to gather pertinent information and report on the general situation in

every field area to which you were assigned. The information that you submitted, including accurate analyses of the political/military situation, enabled the Mission to accurately forecast and plan for large refugee movements.

5. When it became necessary to transfer the air delivery organization for refugee food support from Vientiane, Laos to Udorn, Thailand just prior to the flood of August 1971, your initiative, energy, and devotion to duty insured continuous air deliveries of critical food supplies to all refugee locations in Laos.

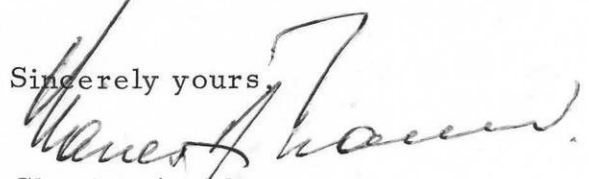
6. It has been noted on numerous occasions that in the fulfillment of your responsibilities you continuously kept the best interests of the U.S. Government in mind and effectively carried out the Mission's objectives in providing the programmed support of the refugee population in Laos.

Your dedicated and conscientious efforts in implementing the program and objectives of the Laos Mission were of a consistently high standard. The cessation of hostilities and the achievement of the current situation of peace has subsequently resulted in a reduction in the refugee population in Laos and some change in the Mission's program composition. Only this situation could permit the diminished requirement for the continued services of highly competent, qualified, and intelligent young employees such as yourself.

I understand that you are returning to the United States to pursue studies leading to a degree in law. Based on your concentration on and dedication to the tasks to be performed and your excellent performance with this Mission, I have confidence that you will do well in your continuing educational endeavors.

I extend to you my warmest thanks and appreciation for your contribution during the past five and one half years. My very best wishes for the New Year and for your continued success in future endeavors.

Sincerely yours,



Charles A. Mann
Director