

HEY YOU!

“ແກ້ວມັນ”

PUBLISHED Monthly by and for US Peace Corps Volunteers in Thailand. Howard Stateman, Editor. Advisory Council, Thailand (ACT), publisher. Exchanges with other volunteer publications welcome. Opinions stated are not necessarily those of the US Peace Corps or government.

AUGUST, 1976 VOLUME ONE NUMBER SEVEN

BLAIR TO HEAD
GROUP 57 TRAINING

Former PCV Bob Blair will be the director of training for Group 57, due to arrive at Don Muang Airport in Bangkok at 12:15 August 10. The trainees are expected in the DOLA DOLA, DLD, AG/Teachers College, Forestry, TEFL/TC and Med. Tech programs.

After orientation in Bangkok they will go to Singuri for training.

Training Director Van Nelson welcomes suggestions from PCVs on how to improve the training programs. He also encourages volunteers to make contact with the trainees-- meet them at the airport, visit them at their training site--to help them get into the volunteer spirit.

TRAIINEES NOTE: ACT will be making arrangements to have you elect a representative to ACT for the duration of training. This will help trainees get to know some volunteers from across the country, and help volunteers keep in touch with the problems and joys of being a trainee.

MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE AGAINST THEFT

In a letter to ACT before he left for home leave last month, PC Director Mick Zenick suggested one of the Council's roles could be as the agency to set up a motorcycle theft insurance for volunteers. Right now, none is available in Thailand.

He made the following recommendations:

1. Obtain data on how many volunteers own cycles, and the number of thefts per year, plus the average cost per cycle.
2. Set premiums high enough to cover more than the average number of thefts.
3. Set the amount of compensation lower than 100% of the value of the bike to encourage PCVs to continue taking anti-theft measures.
4. Get advice from an American Insurance firm on how to set up such a fund.

(continued on page 6)

-A PARTY-
-TO REMEMBER-

ON SATURDAY NIGHT, July 17, the river cruiser "Gold" slipped quietly from the pier on the Chao Phraya River, behind the home of PCV Tom Frisbie. As quietly, that is, as a ship with about 45 people aboard, plus a 12-piece band can slip.

That was at 7 p.m. At 8:30 the Gold returned to pick up more passengers, lots of snacks, and some punch. It chugged away from the dock once again, and made one more call at about 10, before setting off downriver for a long, loud, fun cruise.

This was all Tom's way of saying goodbye. He's been in Thailand for 5 years. He was a TEFL teacher in Trang and then moved to the Peace Corps office as the only PCV, helping make site checks and do TEFLs at training.

Billed as "The Social Event of the Year" by those who heard about it long enough ahead of time to bill it, the party ended up hosting upwards of 100 people. Most were volunteers and staff, with others representing AUA, and other groups Tom has worked with.

The band was Chulalongkorn's rock group, and featured a female lead singer who could make it to the top of the charts in America any day. She combined a beautiful, well-trained voice with accentless English. Except for the saxophones everyone was in tune. The story is Tom asked for a 6-piece band on his birthday, but the students thought it would be such a fun deal, they all came.

The snacks went fast. There were some typical oriental foods, such as roast suckling pig, egg rolls, curry puffs and bagels. As well as home made bread (thanks, Kathy Judd), dip and punch.

As the boat traveled downriver, roman candles and pinwheels were shot from bow and stern. The dancers made the boat bounce to the rhythm of the band. Though they played great jazz, the band's biggest hit was the ramwong. The host led passengers in a serpentine around the two-level ship.

The lower level of the boat was reserved for the band and dancers, with a small galley up front. Upstairs were a buffet table with snacks, plus plenty of tables and chairs for the guests.

No one fell overboard, only one dish broke, and not too many things

were lost. Tours of Tom's house were also part of the evening, with lots of oohs and aahs over his tastefully arranged fish traps and objects d'art. A good time was had by all, and it's a farewell that won't soon be forgotten by anyone who was there. Good Luck to Tom, wherever you are.

FREE REPRINTS AVAILABLE FROM
ACTION INFO COLLECTION & EXCHANGE UNIT
THAILAND

The Information Collection & Exchange (ICE) unit of ACTION has been, and continues to be collecting PCV-generated material which can be used by other PCVs in other countries. The first series of reprints from material sent in is listed below. PCVs Brant Rogers and Howard Stateman have catalogued all PCV and PC/staff materials submitted, plus all those in PC/Bangkok. This is a continuing project, however. If you have put together anything at all which might be of use to PCVs elsewhere, please send a sample to Howard Stateman, Rubber Research Center, Hat Yai, Songkla. The following reprints can also be ordered through Howard.

"Peace Corps: Intermediate Technology for 15 Years," a small booklet of misc. designs and plans, including a dustery manual centrifuge and plans for a basic building.

"Health Education: A Study Unit on Fecal-borne Diseases and Parasites" provides instructors with materials for teaching students how an individual's habits effect health.

"Visual Aids," various examples of visual aid media-flashcards, posters, flanelgraph, silk screen, movies, photos, blackboard, bulletin board, puppets, slides.

"Health Training Resource Material for PCVs" deals with health in (a) the cultural context, (b) health and community development, (c) basic sanitation, and (d) school health programs.

(CONTINUED PAGE 6)

WHERE YOU GO BY T.O. BOY

MALAYSIA: THE HARD WAY

You can get anywhere from Haad Yai. It was with this thought in mind that I took my passport in hand soon after arriving at my Haad Yai site, and decided to have lunch Saturday in Malaysia. The original plan was to get to Alor Star, on the Penang side of the peninsula. Alor Star is the first city of any size the other side of the border. I didn't make it.

It's easy to get to Alor Star. You can take most any of the myriad tour buses which leave at between 10 am and noon from the major hotels in town: Laem Tong, King, Saeng Far, and a couple others. It costs \$M10 (B79) to go to Butterworth, across from Penang, on those buses. The fare to Alor Star depends on the bus company. There also are taxis near the Talad Sod market which will take you as far as Pedang Besar, the Thai-Malaysian border town, and then you can hop a Malaysian taxi across the border near the train station. Or you can get the train from Haad Yai, and switch to the Malaysian train at Pedang Besar. For the PCV, there are lots of easy ways to go. But who wants to go the easy way? So I started out by bus.

First, there was the bus from Haad Yai to Sadao. It's a red bus, and you can catch it at the bus station, Talad Sod, or on the Haad Yai-Songkla highway, or on the Songkla-Sadao highway. It costs B7 from HY to Sadao. It's a Duan bus, so it goes pretty fast, and gets to Sadao, some 45 kms away, in about an hour. Then you get off the bus at the bus station in Sadao, walk across the street and one block to the right, and wait at the only bus stop in Sadao for a very strange assortment of song taews, which will take you to Pedang Besar for B2. None of these song taews looks like public transportation, except for the fact that they look like they won't make it the 13 kms to Pedang Besar. This trip, including the wait for the bus to get filled up with people and sacks of rice (there is a flour mill halfway to PB) is about an hour.

Upon approaching Sadao by bus you will pass the immigration office. Do not yield to the temptation and get off. I did, and discovered this is only the checkout point for people coming into Malaysia by tour bus. The road to the Malaysian border is some 15 kms past the Sadao checkpoint, and if you have your exit visa stamped at Sadao, it's a loooooong walk to Malaysia. The nice man in the office was very pleasant, and explained to me that there are three Thai immigration points: Sadao, Pedang Besar road and Pedang Besar train. Sadao was the most direct road to Butterworth, so most of the tour buses and taxis and private cars heading for Penang or Kuala Lumpur or Singapore use that checkout. But it's impossible for pedestrians. Then there's PB road, which is the one the local taxis use, and some of the local private vehicles. Again, it's a tough place for pedestrians. The train station is right on the border, and there is a Thai immigration office on one side of the station, and Malaysian on the other, and is very convenient. But since it is supposed to be only for people taking the trains, you have to tell them you took the train there

...the hard way (cont.)

whether you did or not, or they won't stamp your passport. That sounded simple enough, so I took the song taew to PB, walked through the market (ask anyone which way to Malaysia, and they'll show you) to the train station, and told the immigration people in Thailand that I had taken the train there and walked around PB before deciding to continue into Malaysia. So they stamped my passport. The Malaysian people weren't picky at all. They just asked how long I was going to be in Malaysia, how much money I had, and stamped me through. However, there are other people to watch out for at the PB train station. There are lots of guys who latch onto Farangs, who try to "help" you with everything--from filling out the emmigration form, which he can hardly read, since he's a dropout and never got the benefit of Malaysia's excellent English language schooling; to trying to explain to the immigration official where you are going, when he hasn't even asked you where you are going. Or if he has, he didn't understand your answer. The best way to deal with these fellows, I found, is to tell the immigration official they're bothering you. The Thai officials, especially, don't like these leeches. Malaysia, on the other hand, has tough vagrancy laws which it only applies to foreigners. Or so it seems at the PB border.

Once across the border, I had to shake off my personal leech, which was done pleasantly enough by taking the overpass back across the railroad tracks, and heading for a lake which is on the Malaysian side. The town of PB/Malaysia is on the same side of the tracks as the station, and since there are no tips to be made if you're sitting in the shade of a tree looking out over a lake watching the kids swimming, the leeches aren't interested in coming with you. It's also a very nice place to just sit and relax.

From PB there are trains south, taxis and both express and regular buses, all of which stop in Alor Star. The problem was, if I went to Alor Star that late (by this time it was 3 pm) I'd have no way to get back to Thailand before the immigration stations closed. The Malaysian side closes at 5:30 p.m. Malaysian time, however, is $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour ahead of Thai time. The Thai side closes at 3:30, but after the train station closes you can always go to the PB road station, about a km from PB. That station doesn't close till 5:30 Thai time.

So I walked around PB for a couple of hours. It's very expensive there. This is because it is the place where Thais come to buy Malaysian goods cheap. Only all the sellers are Thai. So the prices are almost as high as you would pay in Bangkok, and certainly higher than the Haad Yai market, where you can get a wide variety of items (mostly cosmetics) which have been smuggled across the border. And even there the savings aren't very great.

The interesting part of the trip was crossing back to PB/Thailand. On my way into Malaysia, I hadn't stopped to notice the market I was passing through. If all the salesmen in PB/M are Thais, all the ones in PB/T are Malaysians. You don't have to go across the border to enter Malaysia. In fact, it was as if crossing the border from Malaysia brought me "from the old world to the new" (that is, from the old to the new). I was

INSURANCE
(from page 1)

Mick worked out the following estimate:
*Assume 30 people insure their bike
*Assume an average value of \$5,000
*Assume 6 cycles stolen each year

Therefore, \$30,000 needs to be paid out. So \$30,000 in premiums needs to be collected plus some additional amount for admin. costs. The premium would have to be \$1,000 a year (or \$84 a month) plus costs.

Peace Corps staff would not be involved except to facilitate the organization.

"The question is will the volunteers consider the cost worth it?" he asks.

If you own a motorcycle, or plan to buy one, let us have your opinion. Write to Hey You c/o the Peace Corps, 42 Soi Somprasong 2, Bangkok 4.

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LIVING ALLOWANCE INCREASE?

There is the possibility in the next few months that PC will get enough money for an 8% living allowance increase. For those of you who weren't in-country at the time of the last increase, it was a graduated increase, with rural volunteers getting a much higher percentage raise than metropolitan and Bangkok PCVs.

If you have suggestions on how to distribute this new increase, should it come through, write to either Mick Zenick, or Hey You.

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VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION
CONSIDERED

ACT is considering building an international volunteer organization—that is, a council with representatives of all the volunteer agencies represented in Thailand.

The main reason for this is to help promote volunteer welfare, and to present a united face to the Thai government. One reason housing allowances have not been raised in several years is the Thai government has said they want to give all volunteer agencies equal housing allowances. Perhaps a united effort in this area could bring housing allowances into a more realistic set of figures.

REPRINTS AVAILABLE FROM ACTION
(from page 2)

"Agricultural Math for PCVs" is a practical guide for solving field problems which require math calculations. Contains reference tables, problems related to water and irrigation, construction, land leveling and crop production and ag. machinery.

"Irrigation Principles & Practice" "Crop Production Handbook" "Improved Practices in Corn Production" espouses the "package" approach to improve crop yields.

"Soils, Crops & Fertilizer Use" "Guide for Field Crops in the Sub-Tropics" deals in depth with climate, soils, cropping and farming systems in the tropics and subtropics.

"An Expanded Collection of Language Informant Techniques" is a handbook which facilitates the improvement of language in the field without trained instructors.

"Tales of Wisdom in Folly: A Course in Controlled Composition," is a collection of fables in progressively difficult structures/ vocabulary. Assignments at the end of each story are to improve the student's English composition skills.

"Guidelines for Development of a Home Industry" includes ideas on marketing, production, training and record keeping.

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"Utilization and Construction of Pit Silos" "Combatting Hansen's Disease"

Note: Because of the limited supply, special arrangements must be made for bulk orders.

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UNCLASSIFIEDS
FOR SALE: Panasonic JE-5001u electronic hand calculator with 9-place display, 8 digits and 1 operational sign, full floating decimal point, one independent accumulative memory, degree-radian-gradient mode switch, $2x^2$ calculation for memory calculation. With the following functions: π , square root of x , cube root of x , $\sin x$, $\sin^{-1} x$, $\cos x$, $\cos^{-1} x$, $\tan x$, $\tan^{-1} x$, $\sinh x$, $\cosh x$, $\tanh x$, $x \rightarrow y$, $\log x$, 10^x , y^x , x^y . Almost new. Can be used with adapter (not included). Comes with operating instructions. Price: \$1,100.

Bob Newman
Salaklang Changwat
Chonburi

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THE PEACE CORPS OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED AUGUST 12 IN HONOR OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

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"Errol" 8/12/76

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

ENCLOSED are two sheets of paper. One lists the candidates and any information on them which they supplied. The other is your ballot. It has a stamped, addressed side. When you have checked the boxes of the candidates you want to vote for, simply fold the ballot in half, staple shut, and mail.

VOTING IS IN TWO PARTS. At-large candidates represent ALL Volunteers. Regional candidates represent those volunteers which are listed in the Peace Corps roster as working in that particular region.

VOTE FOR TWO AT-LARGE CANDIDATES. VOTE FOR TWO REGIONAL CANDIDATES
FROM YOUR REGION.

Any ballot with votes for candidates from more than one region will be void. Vote only for candidates from your region (except in the at-large section of the ballot).

BALLOTS WILL BE COUNTED Sept. 17 by Dave Jackson, ACT Secretary, at his site in Tak. Be sure to mail your ballot early enough for Dave to get it by the 17th.

Winning candidates will be notified by telegram. THE NEWLY-ELECTED COUNCIL WILL MEET OCT. 2 (Saturday) at 9:30 a.m. in the PC/Bangkok office. All volunteers are welcome to attend. On the agenda are the PC Medical program, inter-volunteer (CUSO, VSO, etc.) group, election of officers, and anything else that those attending wish to bring up. Elected ACT members will be reimbursed for round-trip travel to the meeting, and will receive one (1) day's Bangkok allowance of \$50. All others come at their own expense.

INADVERTANTLY LEFT OUT OF THE AUGUST "HEY YOU"

LEND A HAND

DAVID PUN, PCV/TEFL Sec. in Sri-Chiangmai, Nong Khai, is looking for some people who can spare some baht every month to help support one of his MS 3 students who has lost both parents. One of the brightest kids in David's school, he has a younger brother and two younger sisters who are attending school. Since these children have been surviving on charity money the past few months, the odds are David's student will quit school.

after MS 3 to work to support his family. David's goal is to find enough sponsorship to enable his student to continue his education.

If you want to help, contact David at Panprao School, Srichiang-mai, Nong Khai.

ACT

c/o US Peace Corps
42 Soi Somprasong 2
Bangkok 4

WHO'S RUNNING

AT-LARGE

1. JIM BUSCHOFF (47) TEFL M.S.I. Uthai Thani. Remarks: Quite verbal, good source for central area. widely travelled and 3rd year in Peace Corps.
2. STEVE GILBERT (51) TEFL/Sec. Nan. Remarks: Let me make this perfectly clear and make no mistake about it, I am running for the Peace Corps/Thailand Advisory Council. I am behind the Council "1000%" and will work to maintain the "ethnic purity" of regions. I wish to make no other statement which may serve to alienate certain factions and thereby put my campaign in danger.
3. GORDON GOWEN (56) TEFL Pattalung. Remarks: I favor better communication between PCVs as I'm the only "farang" in Pattalung. I favor better communication between PCVs and staff because all the staff members I know are afraid to come to Pattalung without a police escort and I suspect I will never see them again unless in Bangkok at an ACT Council meeting!
4. MIMI GRAY (51) TEFL/Sec. Sriyaphai School, Chumporn. Remarks: Although I support ACT and enjoy contributing to it, I consider myself a secondary candidate, having served for 8 months already. Therefore, voters, if you're deliberating between me and another candidate, I encourage you to vote for the other candidate.
5. WILLIAM RAPP (55) DOLA/RPW Satun. Remarks: None.
6. HOWARD STATEMAN (51) IP/Audio Visual Communications, Hat Yai. Remarks: none.

CENTRAL REGION

1. PEGGY WHITMAN (52) TEFL/Univ. Sri Nakarin Wirot University, Bang Saen, Chonburi. Remarks: None.
2. KENNETH MARECK (52) Nong Pho Dairy Co-op Rajburi. Remarks: none.

SOUTHERN REGION

1. JOSEPH BALL (53) TEFL Yala Teachers College, Yala, Remarks: Very simply I have written to Peace Corps/Washington about getting a staff position in a stateside PC office after I terminate. In the meantime (I still have about 1 year of service left) I would like to get some first-hand experience working within the Peace Corps Bureauacracy.
2. NANCY COOKE (51) TEFL/Sec. Phucket. Remarks: I have been involved with ACT since its inception and I hope to continue active participation.
3. DAN E. KETTWIG (53) TEFL Phucket. Remarks: none.

NORTHEAST REGION

1. JEFF ELLIDGE (56) DOLA/RPW Korat. Remarks: Nomination submitted by Mike Buford.
2. AY E. STRONG (51) TEFL/Sec. Roi-Et. Remarks: None.
3. JOHN TUCKER (54) Land Development/ Ag Extension Nong Khai. Remarks: Belligerence helps.

NORTH REGION

1. DAVID JACKSON (54) Land Development/Ag Extension, Tak. Remarks: As a veteran Council member, I believe I'm qualified to say, and to put it lightly, the more dedicated we are at keeping this mess organized, the more rewarding the end product will be. and as another prominent candid-

(continued other side)

NORTH REGION, CONT.

ate has stated, "All power, ultimately, comes from the pearut."

2. LEONARD GALE SHARON () ARD/Ag Extension Uttaradit. Remarks: Peace Corps, and, emphatically, PC Advisory Council, should be staffed with those willing to temporarily shelve personal hassles, in light of working for smoother and more productive unit. Primary interest in the volunteer spirit should be maintained in spite of all bureaucratic pressures. Thank You.

3. DONALD CAMPBELL (48) TEFL/TTC Pitsanuloke. Remarks: This is my 3rd year (terminate Oct. '77).

BANGKOK

1. MARY CLAIRE PECENY (51) TEFL/Sec. Remarks: none.

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NOTE

According to the ACT constitution, there will be 5 at-large members and 2 members representing each region, for a total of 15 members. If, however, there are no candidates for a region, that region won't be represented.

THE FOLLOWING PAGE IS YOUR BALLOT. MARK YOUR TWO FAVORITE AT-LARGE CANDIDATES AND YOUR TWO FAVORITE REGIONAL CANDIDATES, THEN FOLD IN HALF SO THE STAMP AND DAVID JACKSON'S ADDRESS ARE ON THE OUTSIDE, THEN MAIL.

There is nothing in the ACT constitution against write-ins, but the outgoing council would appreciate you making sure a PCV is willing to serve on the council before writing in his or her name.

~ ACT BALLOT ~

AT-LARGE: VOTE FOR TWO. THE FIVE WITH THE MOST VOTES ARE ELECTED

- 1. JIM BUSCHOFF
- 2. STEVE GILBERT
- 3. GORDON GOWEN
- 4. MIMI GRAY
- 5. WILLIAM RAPP
- 6. HOWARD STATEMAN

CENTRAL REGION: PCVs serving in the Central Region vote for TWO

- 1. PEGGY WHITMAN
- 2. KENNETH MARECK

SOUTHERN REGION: PCVs serving in the south vote for TWO

- 1. JOSEPH BALL
- 2. NANCY COOKE
- 3. DAN. E. KETTWIG

NORTHEAST REGION: PCVs serving in the NE vote for TWO

- 1. JEFF ELLIDGE
- 2. KAY E. STRONG
- 3. JOHN TUCKER

NORTH REGION: PCVs serving in the North vote for TWO

- 1. DAVID JACKSON
- 2. LEONARD GALE SHARON
- 3. DONALD CAMPBELL

BANGKOK REGION: PCVs serving in the Bangkok region vote for TWO

- 1. MARY CLAIRE PECENY
- 2.

Fold this ballot in half, other side out, staple shut, mail.
Ballots will be counted in Tak Sept. 17. The ACT
will meet Saturday, Oct. 2, 9:30 a.m. at the PC/
Bangkok office.

ACT
c/o US Peace Corps
42 Soi Somprasong 2
Bangkok 4

TO:

DAVID JACKSON
Land Development Office
798-798/1 Taksin Rd.
TAK