O. Introduction

1. Syllable and word structure.
2. Vowels
3. Consonants

O. Introduction.

Stieng is a language of the Mon-Khmer family spoken in southern Vietnam and eastern Cambodia. In Phuoc Long province they are said to number about 20,000, and Binh Long province 10,000. We have seen no figure for Cambodia. This study represents the Buol dialect, which is geographically the central Stieng dialect in Phuoc Long. Data was gathered while resident in the village of Bukhoei, near the foot of the Bara Mountain, in the Phuoc Binh district of Phuoc Long.

1. Syllable and word structure.

Stieng syllables are of two types: presyllables and main syllables. The presyllable can be symbolized as POS, where P may be any stop or /s/, O is a neutral vowel, noncontrastive in quality and length, and S is a syllabic (cf. §3.2). A pre-