

MR 5 refugee interviews – Vientiane (Houa Phan). 1970/1971

[s.l.]: [s.n.], 1970/1971

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FROM: Khamdeang SENGMANIVONG

SUBJECT: Refugees Report at Ban Na Lao, (Km 52), Tasseng Na Lao

Muong Phon Hong Khoueng Vientiane.

Ethnic Group MEO:

These refugees came from Ban Kha Hong, Tasseng Kha Hong Muong Khoun Khoueng Kiengkhouang. All of them are 17 families and 149 persons. This Ban, I can't find on the map, but he told me that it is in the north of Kiengkhouang about 6 Km, this time I didn't find Nai Ban, because he went out, but I had only talked with the vice of Nai Ban. These people didn't come at the same time. I had no much time to ask him very clear, we talked about the problem in this village, and about the life under P.L.

Reason For Moving: For him, he left his original village since 1958, that time there was no problem with P.L. He told me only that he heard from other refugees in the same village, in 1960 there was P.L. in the village, so there was war between RLG and P.L. in the area, they couldn't stay at their village, they must moved down to Long Cheng they lived there since 1960 to 1969. When Sam Thong was fought by P.L. they were afraid, so they moved down again to Vientiane since February 1970.

Life Under P.L.: He never lived with P.L., so there is no problem with him, but he talked to me also about this. All villagers must worked together, if some body had a large field and he couldn't do all by himself, he must divided this land to the other. If some body didn't beleive him, he must send them to learn until they beleived, or some time he told to some people to grow rice on the field that it wasn't doing anything, until two or three time, the property of the land couldn't protect his land again. And also, the villagers must go to "Lam-Liang" for P.L. Army, it's very hard, if they didn't go P.L. used to considered them that they were the spy of RIG.

About the subject of education, public health and program of P.L. I can't tell you now but when I go to Phon Hong I shall come back again to examin and ask them as chearly as possible.

Present Life At Km 52: These refugees lived along the road to Phon Hong, this land doesn't be long to any body, so there is no problem with the land, they could work on this land except some places of old Hay which belong to the people of Ban Na Lao, they find one place that can be field to grow rice during the rainy season, but right now there are some big trees and small trees and also bamboo. This land can be used on for refugees in this place. Since last month, there were some medics who came to visit them one or two weeks a time.

RR/RDD/Khamdeang SENGMANIVONG/ps:28/8/70

FROM: Khamdeang SENGMANIVONG (Phon Hong)

SUBJECT: Refugees Report at Ban Hakang, Tasseng Heuang Neua, Khoueng Houa Phan, and settled down at Ban Nampot II M. Phon Hong.

Ethnic Group: Lac.

These refugees came from Ban Hokang, Tasseng Heuang Neua, M. Houa Muong K. Xieng Khouang. In 1963 these was P.L. in the village, and on 1966 they moved down to Ben Bouam Long (UG-2385) they stayed there for two years, when this area was fought by P.L. they moved down again to Ban Sop Khao (UG-1197) and stayed there about one year and the half. When Phou Vieng (UG-0890) was fought by P.L. they moved down again to Ban Xieng Deth (TG-5847(and lived there for 4 months, then they moved again to Long Cheng and stayed there for 9 months, when Samthong was fought by P.L. there was a plane that went to take them to Ban Nasou (Vang Vieng) then they moved again to Ban Nampot II, they arrived here on 28 March 1970. All of them are 7 families and 41 persons. They moved all of them in their original village but they stayed every where.

Reason for Moving: Since 1963 there was P.L. in their village at first they couldn't stay with them because they did everything to the villagers to be glad, and talked to them, all were very well, but later they started to tyrannize the villagers. They took rice from the villagers for "Rice for Nation" and "Khao Totane", they took the villagers to go "Lam Lieng". If they didn't go they must kill them, so they must go. Some time there was bombing by the air plane all the houses were burnt. They haven't any thing to eat, and they couldn't go to work or castch fish. The villagers couldn't stay with the difficulty so they dicided to move away from P.L. on 1966.

Life Under P.L.: Since P.L. lived in the village at first every thing was easy, they began by propaganded in the village, they talked to the villagers to coordinate themselves and also with P.L. army, work together, grow many rice, and aid ourselves to chase the strangers out of our country, then we have free, fredom equality and we could play with enjoyable. But later they began to tyrannize by proganda again, but this time they said about rice for Nation and some rules for going to "lam lieng". If P.L. wanted to go every where they told to the villagers to go to "Lam-Lieng" they must go, if not they considered like spy of RIG, they same at night time or day time, sometime they went to "lam liang" During two or three nights. There was also associations of the old person, wife association, young boy association and about the girl they called "Youvanaly" Some hight there was "Lam Vong Samakkhi". If some one didn't beleive them, they sent them to learn.

When P.L. saw our air plane went past they told the villagers to go in the wood or hid in the hole in the village there were many houses were burn by bombing of air plane, and there were 5 persons killed as follow: Xieng Kham, Sao Teuy, Nai Bounma, Me One, Me Ouh. In their original village there were about 41 families, but the member of person they couldn't remember and about 30 families their village, there was a little only

stayed at their village because they couldn't go out.

Education and Health: When they lived with P.L. there was no school but only learn on the yard or some times in the wood because they were afraid of bombing. About the big person the way that they learn was; they sat around about six or seven persons, then they asked each after until they could all understand, about the health there was only soldier medic if some villagers were sick, they also tooked after P.L. medic.

Agriculture: In their original village they used to grow rice in the field, and also vegetable in the garden, in this area the land was very well for growing rice they also grow oium, because this area was so cool. But until P.L. came into the village they had no time to grow it again, and there was no marketing, in this subject there was not any marketing with P.L. but right now at Ban Nampot II the land for growing rice is so good but it had problem about insect that ate their rice.

RR/RDD/Khamdeang SENGMANIVONG/ps:14/9/70

FROM: Khamdeang SENGMANIVONG (Phon Hong)

SUBJECT: Refugees Report at Ban Na Muong, Tasseng Naleng, Muong Houa Muong, K. Houa Phan, and settled down in Ban Nampot II M. Phon Hong K. Vientiane.

Ethnic Group: Lao.

These refugees came from Ban Na Muong, Tasseng Naleng, M. Houa Muong K. Houa Phan, in there original village all of them are about 35 families and 175 persons. This village I cannot see on the map because I haven't the map of Khoueng Houa Phan. When Muong Peun, K. Houa Phan was occupated by P.L. they moved down to Muong Oh in 1963, they lived there for 1 year when this area was fought by P.L. they moved down again to Long Cheng and lived there for 1 year. On 1965 they moved again to Ban Nam Mo (TS-9302), because they were afraid of war and also the chief of soldiers at Long Cheng send them, they went by plane. They lived at this plan about 3 years, and at last they moved down to Ban Nampot II M. Phon Hong Vientiane on March 1970, with 14 families and 78 persons.

Reason for Moving: These refugees moved away from their original village because there was war between RLG and P.L. they didn't like about P.L. program so they must move with our soldier. They already knew about P.L. so they were very tired of them. When our soldier lived where, they must live sith. That's mean that they liked RLG. Sometime, in the different place that they settled down, when there was fighting in the area the chief of soldier told them to moved before, because they thought that dangerous will be came to the villagers.

Role of P.L.: In their original village there was not any P.L. but sometime at night P.L. came into the village by hiding, when they met with RIG army there was fighting, and when they didn't meet they propaganded to the villagers about their program, but not used, they had no time to live in the village so there was no problem about P.L. in the village only their proganda.

The Propaganda of P.L.: When P.L. came inot the village, some of them were outside, some were inside to do the propaganda they told to the villagers to work together, coordinated suselves, chase american out of our country, in this case we must "Samakkhi" ourselves. Also they told to the villagers to work in the field together to get many rice for our need, they said everything to make the villagers to be glad and like them, but the villagers knew very well, that it was the first time, but later they will tyrannize them. When P.L. said they were also agreed but when they left they never believed them, because when P.L. spoke if the villagers didn't agree they will took them and kill them.

Education and Heath: At Ban Na Muong, Tasseng Naleng M. Houa Muong K. Houa Phan. There was no hospital, if every body were sick they must go to the town, there were also school in the village but only the first year and second year (P.I., PII). Many of them were uneducated.

Agriculture: In their original village they used to grow rice in the field. Hay, and grow vegetable in the garden, every thing was sufficient of their need. In each house there were the leask five or six buffaloes, or cows and many pigs and hens, when P.L. came nearer they had no time to grow rice and later there was fighting in the area so they moved away.

There was no problem about land that they lived now but only insect and mice that eat their rice.

RR/RDD/Khamdeang SENGMAN VONG/ps:14/9/70

FROM: Khamdeng SENGMANIVONG

SUBJECT: Refugees report from Muong HouaMuong Khoueng HouaPhanh, settled down at ban Phon Khao Kham, Phon Hong.

ETHNIC GROUP: LAO

These refugees came from several Tasseng in Muong Houa Muong as follow; T. Muong Lap, T. Nam Pong, T. Muong Peun, T. Houa Xieng, T. Phao and T. Houa Muong. I can't tell you about the number of each Tasseng and each Ban because the Nai Ban didn't tell this, but the number of all refugees in this area is 160 families and 891. This number include old refugees and new, so in this report I tell you only old refugees.

Reason for Moving: Since 1961 there was war in their original village, before they lived with our RIG. army, so when there was fighting in the area they moved out of the village to ban Phao Tasseng Muong Peun Muong Houa Mouang Khoueng Houa Phanh, they lived there for 4 years, then they left this area on April 1965 to Poung Hay Muong Hiem about 1 week. Then colonnel Kham Xao, the chief soldier in this area told them to move to San Kha about (TA 9515) they went by helicopter, all of them were about 3000 persons. When they lived there they also got assistance by USAID as tools for cooking tools of gardening, rice and some provision, when Mouang Hiem was fought by PL. and NVA. our RLG coudn't resist them, so they moved down to NaKhang (UH 3911) and lived there for two nights, and then they moved to Vang Vieng by plane on 1965. and lived there for 15 days. When they settled down in this village, they also got assistance by soldier as some rice, provision, they receive rice 5kg per person, the soldier distributed them 5 days once. Then the old deputy his name was Mr. Phom went to visit them and took them to Vientiane, because he thought that place will be dangerous, so he wanted them to live in the quiet place. They arrived at Phon Hong on March 1966.

Life in Their Original village: Since they live in their original village their village was the center of meeting PL. soldier and our RLG. soldier, so at night time PL soldier came in, and at day time our RLG. came in. One day, they for get the date, on 1961. There was fighting in the area, there was some bomb of PL. felt in their village, some houses were distroyed by the bomb of PL. and NWA, there were two person had killed, they forgot their name it was a young bby and a young girl about 17 years old. Then they moved to ban Phao, because this area there was no fighting, and there was our RIG in the village. Two days after they asked colonel Sisavath, the chief soldier to move back to their original village, he had already permit to come back. So the villagers moved back, they took everything on the donkey and then went back, by the way PL. stopped them and shot them, so they returnt to Ban Phao again. So they couldn't return to their original billage, they moved to Muong Houa Muong, when they arrived at Muong Houa Muong their villages were the center of fighting, theysaw the airplane went to bomb, sometime was T28. Sometime was Fantome or B 52. All their houses were burnt by bombing. Right now there were only some colones. The airplane went to bomb 5 or six time a day. When PL. with

come to fight, before they wrote a letter to the villager or to the RIG. soldier sometime they came on the date that they wrote sometime not, sometime they didn't anything they came to fight. During the fighting there were almost NWA, when they had wined PL came to live in. Right now in their original village there were also some chiness soldiers.

Economic Life in their original village: In their original village they used to grow rice in the field, sometime in the "Hay" they also grew vegetable, opium, fruit tree, because in this area it was very cold. In the cold season there was snow, so it was very good land for the fruit tree and opium to sell to north Vietnam. There was also school and hospital, because they lived with our RIG. so it was no problem with them. When PL. came nearer everything must stop, because they were afraid, there was no marketing since PL. came near at night time PL. came into the village they took salt to change the dog or pig to the villagers.

Right now for the old refugees they couldn't receive rice from the social welfare, they used to grow rice in the Hay, because there was no place to grow rice in the rainy season.

ORA/Khamdeng SENGMANIVONG:on:22-9-70

FROM: Khamdeng SENGMANIVONG

SUBJECT: Refugee report from Ban Hing Tasseng Muong Peun Muong Houa Muong Khoueng Houa Phan, settled down at Ban Phou Khao Kham, Phon Hong.

ETHNIC GROUP: LAO

On Friday September 18th 1970, I went to meet Nai Ban of new refugees that settled down at Phon Khao Kham, I went two or three time but I missed him, because he went to hay at day time, so that day I must go on night time I talked with him since 6 o'clock until 9 o'clock when I return I was very afraid because it was a so long way from Phon Khao Kham to Phon Hong, I talked with him about my work and he showed me the list of population in this area as follow:

Name Of Village	No. of F & P.
B. Na Hing	4/22
B. Kong	11/70
B. Houa Xieng	8/58
B. Houa Na	1/4
B. Houa Mouang	3/20
B. Name Neun	1/6
B. Muong Peun	11/61
B. Muong Lap	5/29
B. Nam Pong	1/5

Total: 9 villages and 45/275.

These villages, there was no Nai Ban, all of them belong to Mr. Phom Amath the chief of village B. Hing, because he knew about them very well, all of them moved at the same time from their original village as the old group and they settled down in the different area all the same.

Reason for Moving: In 1961 in their original village, there was war between RLG. and PL. when there was fighting very hard in the area, they couldn't lived in the village so they moved out to Ban Phao Tasseng Muong Peun Muoung Houa Muong Koueng Houa Phanh near their original village because in this area there was our RIG. soldier. When Ban Phao was fought by PL. again they left there and went to Nakhang (UH 3911), and lived there for 8 months, then they returned to their original village again and lived for few days only because after they came into the village there was fighting in the area again then they moved to Houa Muong and stayed there for 1 year. When this area was fought again by PL. they moved to Nakhang again and lived there for one year, then they moved again to Sam Thong during two years. When they settled down in the different area they also received assistance by our RLG soldier, or somethime by USAID. While they lived in that area they knew that there were some people in their original Muong Lived in Phom Kay so they wanted to lived with their original villagers, Then they wanted to live in Phon Xay during one year and the half, when they lived there they also

got assistance by USAID as tools of cooking, tools of gardening, rice and some provision. They thought that that area there was no land for growing rice in the summer season, because there was Meo came to tell them that that area belong to them (Meo). So they hadn't any land to growrice, and they knew again that their original population lived in PhoH Khao Kham, so they moved to live with them, they arrived in this area on April 1970.

Life in Their Original village Since There Was no War in the Area: In their original village, they used to grow rice in the field and "Hay". They also grew fruit tree, vegetable and opium, they could do or work everything as they wanted, they sent opium to sell at north Viet Nam. But since there was fighting in the area, they couldn't work, because these villages were the center of meeting between RLO and PL. army. So at night time PL. came into the village and took some rice and some provision, then they left in the wood, and at day time our RLG army came into the village. Since there was a very hard fighting, they moved out to Ban Phao because our RIG. army lived there. When PL. came into the village, sometime they told the villager to go to "Lam Liang" but no usual, because it was a very short time they would like the villagers believed them. So they only told them to go to some place near their villages. These refugees didn't live with PL. regulary so they couldn't know about them very well. Right now in the area that they lived, there was no problem with the land ownership, they could grow rice in the Hay, but there was no place to make field for rice in the rainy season so it was hard enough to get rice.

ORA/Khamdeng SENGMANIVONG:on:23-9-70

TO: Fritz Benson July 2, 1971

FROM: Khamsouane CHANSISOURATH

SUBJECT: Refugees Report who came from Ban Houa Muong, Tasseng Houa Muong, Muong Houa Muong, Khoueng Houa Phanh, could be came

to settled down at Ban Phou Khao Kham.

Ethnic Group: Lao.

Originally these peoples moved from Ban Houa Muong Tasseng Houa Muong Muong Houa Muong Khoueng Houa Phanh. All of them had moved down, but they are not stilled in the same place they moved at Ban Phou Khao Kham only 26 families or 150 persons.

Reason for Moving: Do not like to stay with the PL.

Life under the PL: This village have ever occupy by PL in the year 1964 October to November 1965, when they first come into this area all of these villagers come to listen to their speech, these speech was made by PL leader, be criticised to the Lao government, and he said with the villagers, you people could do every thing you like. Not to be afraid of us we do not cometo tyranised you, because we are also Lactiane like you, then the most important thing was you should try your best to raisedthe animal as much as you could do, because you would sell it to exchange the money, but some of them followed that order and some were not. Within the first 5 months they did not take the rice and other ting from the villagers at all, only they helped people to do their work. Afterward one month come they began to take the rice and hens by making the meceip to the villagers ant they said will to pay you back later, the informant reparted they did not pay nothing. After that the PL devided the villagers into goup, each group there were 20 persons then PL set up one man as the head of the group, one month again the PL could be established three associations in this village, Association the young men, young women, andold Association.

Association the Young Men: When the PL wants rice or thier food it's a work of this association, and every month the head of this association must to check up that have how many livestock for each house then reported to leader of PL know, when the PL need the people to Lam Ling, this association must to ment their commodity for them every time, and one problem again when some hard work like make a new house this association must to help the villagers untill they done finished without get money from the house owner at all.

Association The Young Women: This is the entertainment of this association; because sometimes when there were army of PL passed in the village, they have to look for food and cooked it themselves, or when there were high officer come to visited this village, it's the work of this association to entertain them by dancing every time.

Association the Old: This association didn't have nothing to do, except, when there have been some of the wrangle couple in the village, it's the work of this association to reconcile them.

Afterward they (PL) would like the girls to Obrom to be a teacher, nurse and also how to dancing, then all of the girls in this village went to join with them, after that when there were more PL soldiers come in this area, they will to recruited the rice from the owner again, they called name this rice is (Khao Tor Tane) or attack rice.

The public work: Nothing was built by them.

Agriculture: PL said with the villagers to grow the vegetables, planted rice and raised animal as much as you could do, because you would seal it to exchange the money.

Life at their Old Village: Before when they were at their own village, these people done Na and some family making Hay for sustain their families and their garden they planted banana, sugar can and some opium and they raised animals livestock, ox, buffaloes, hens pigs, and dog, pets, the villagers said living at their own village was more convenience than in the new village.

New Life at their new village: All of them done Hay and they making garden for planting some kinds of vegetable, their children went to school at Ban Phou Khao Kham.

Present Problem: Every thing is OK. but they would like to ask the help of government about rice, because they did not get support yet.

The Way they Moved: These people moved from their own village to Ban Na Khang, because in the month Jan, 1965 there were PL soldiers came to fight withe our soldier on this area only 10 kilometers from this village, so the villagers afraid then they decided moved to Ban Na Khang 6 months, and had the PL came to fift with our soldiers again. Afterward they moved from Ban Na Khang to Muong Kium about 12 days and they moved to Sam Thong 1 month, after that they moved and settled down at Ban Xone more 4 years. Reason fo these refugees moved from Ban Xone come down to Phou Khao Kham, on dated 6 to 7 March 1971. There were PL soldiers could be came to fighted with our soldier at Ban Xone airport, the people afraid so their moved down to Ban Phou Khao Kham on March 17, 1971.

The Biography of Tasseng: His name Mr. Boua he is 38 years old, when he was 30 years old he got married with Nang Sy they got a children 2 persons, afterward in the year 1969 they had elected Mr. Boua to be Tasseng untill now.

ORA: Khamsouane CHANSISOURATH: ps: 7-2-71

FROM: Khamsouane, CHANSISOURATH

SUBJECT: Ban Na Phieng Refugees at Ban Phou Khao Kham Report.

Eahnic Group: Lao.

Originnally these refugees moved from Ban Na Phieng Tasseng Muong Lap Muong Houa Muong Khoueng Sam Neua. The people at their own village there were \$8 families and 330 persons, all ofthem had moved down but they are not settled in the same place, they moved down only 30/187 peoples.

Reason for Leaving: Since 1960 to 1964 the peoples in this village, there is not any problem, because in this area occupy by soldiers of General Wang Pao all the time. Just have the PL soldierspassed this area during the month, Sept, October and November, but they (PL) didn't stay in the village for a long time, they only come to requested rice and their food for a few hours and then they went out, some time three to fours weeks they came in this village once time for take rice and their food. In the month December 1964, there were the PL soldiers came to fight with the soldier of General Vang Pao at that area from this village about 10 Kilometers, the peoples in this village afraid so they decided to moved from their own village to Ban Na Khang, and they stayed in this village 3 months, and had the PL soldmers come to fight with our soldiers at Ban Na Khang again, the villagers moved down to Muong Hium 7 days then there were RIG plane come to pick them up to Sam Thong and lived here about 3 months and moved to Ban Phone Kay in the Ban Xone area, they came to settled at Ban Phone Xay about 5 years.

Reason fo these people moved from Ban Phone Xay to Phou Khao Kham, say, in the month March 6 to 7 1971. There were PL soldiers came to attack with our soldiers at the Ban Xone airport, these people had afraid, so, they decided moved from Ban Phone Xay arrived at Ban Phou Khao Kham March 18, 1971.

Life at their Own Village: Before when they were at their own village, these people done Na and some family making Hay for sustain their families. At their garden they planted sugar can, banana, and also opium, and they raised animal livestock, hens, ox, buffaloes, pigs and g dog. They said living at their old village was more convenience than in the new village.

New Life at their new Village: All of them done Hay and they making garden for planting some kinds of vegetable, their children went to school at Ban Phou Khao Kham.

Present Problem: Every thing is OK. because all of them didn't get support yet.

<u>Informant</u>: Mr. Phoum Meung he is 40 years old, he got married with Nang Pheng in the year 1950, they got children 5 persons, when he is a boy, he did not received education and he used to be once a monk.