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MR 4 refugee interviews – Attopeu. 1970/1971

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

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TO: Fritz Benson

July 21, 1971

FROM: Siya SOMPHONGSAVATH

SUBJECT: Refugee Report at Ban Km 26 who moved from Ban Hom Theung,
M. Attapeu, K. Attapeu.

Ethnic Group: Luy.

In their old village Ban Hom Theung there were 8 families and about 50 persons. All of them had moved out to Ban Phou Luang. They moved out in Januray 1970, they moved out by walking to Phou Luang with our solders, after that get to Km 26.

Reason for Moving: There is a small village which located far from our solideir, camp so it is difficult for the soldiers to take care of them, and around area that time was bombing by the airplane, and some time the PL penetrated in and recruite something from these village, so to protect them from the danger that may come someday, our soldiers told them to move out, and all of the villagers had moved out as the soldiers told them.

These villagers told me that the PL come in this village, but not often every time they came in they recruited some food and the salt, tobacco and chilli from these villagers. When they wanted to had the pigs they bought it from the villagers with the very low price. These refugees told me that these PL sometime ask freely for the dog. When they ask for the dog and the villagers didn't agree to give them they went away, but the next time they came, they asked for it again until the villagers agreed to give it to them. They came in this village once ~~per~~ month or some time two or three months they came in once.

These PL had never stayed over night with the villagers. They always came at 4 O'Clock and recruited thing from the villagers and moved out rightaway they came to 3-4 persons to gether. They told these villagers that they are the patriots, and fighting against the enemy who would take over of this country, and these PL had encouraged these villagers to be the soldiers and help them to fight against the US. Armu the agression, they told the villagers not to move to the RLG's side, they told the villagers that if someone moved to the RLG's side that one would be killed by the RLG. And these PL and forced the villagers not to tell anything about them to our RLG soliders these PL didn't killed any body in this village, there was some bobing around this area, but not inside the village, and none of the villagers wre killed by the bombing.

Life in Their old Village at Ban Ham Theung:

In their old village they had grow rice on their Hay. In their garden they had grown tobacco, chilli, egg-plants, and variety vegetables there wasn't any school in this vilage and none of their children had attended school. There wasn't any hospital in this village, when they were sick they cured by Lao Medic, there wasn't any market in this village, these villagers

used our RIG's money. They had no transportation, they have only the basket or their back to carry the things.

Life in The new Village where they became Refugees:

Here they had already built their old house and they had their own ~~they~~ Hay here they had grown the rice on their Hay once, but not very good because it was bottered by the grasshoper these refugees were not supported by our RIG anything. They consumed only their rice and food which they took from their old village, he had grown, chilli, their children hadn't attended school here, but they went to the village that it is near that it is stand opesit this village.

ORA:ps:7-21-71

TO: Fritz Benson

Dec 29, 1970

FROM: Outhen NOKAHAM (Pakse)

SUBJECT: Refugees Report at Ban Oudomsouk, who moved from ban Sting, Tasseng Nam Hieng, Muong Kao, Khoueng Attopeu.

Ethnic Group: Alak

Originally, there were about 17 families and 98 persons in their old village. They moved out to Ban Oudomsouk 16 families and 93 persons. They moved out in 1965, they walked to Phou Luang, the distance from their village to Phou Luang about 7 Km. They got in the airplane at Phou Luang and flew to Pakse, then they were take to Ban Oudomsouk by motor car.

Reason for Moving: In 1960 this area (Ban Sting) was occupied by the PL these PL are Alak Persons, these are serious persons that time the PL expected to kill Mr. Kham Phou who was the Nai Ban of Ban Sting that time, when he knew that the PL would kill him, he escaped right away to Ban Nam Hieng, here at Ban Namhieng was occupied by the PL too. Mr. Khamphou went through the office of Chao Phanack Ngan Muong (that time / his office was located in Ban Nam Hieng) to explain him about his purpose to come. Mr. Kham Phou told Chao Phanackngan Muong that he wanted to move his villagers to Ban Nam-Hieng and that time Chao Phanackngan Muong allowed him to move his villagers to Ban Nam Hieng, so he went back to his old village and told all of his villagers moved out to Ban Nam Hieng, they located their new village in the wood near by Ban Nam Hieng that time this village were still called Ban Sting. Here at their new village in 1960 they were not supported anything by the PL the first years they had consumed the food which they had taken from their old village. In this village tje they had built their house in the wood under the big tree, and the villagers here at Ban Nam Hieng had built their house on the wood too. In their old village there was only the empty house, and the ash of the burning house. These villager (I mean the villagers of Ban Sting) couldn't grow rice as muc; as they would like, this is becuase of the land, they couldn;t burn down any tree they use only the machettle to cut down the small trees, and these villager were forbiden not to cut a lot of trees, because of the airplane. Even they couldn'tt grow much rice and their harvest is not enough to consume themselves, they had to give it freely to PL.

The 5 years in living under the PL in Ban Sting: They devided these villagers into group, one group there was about 5 persons, in one group there was a head of the group, this man have to take care of all the members in this group, his work is to Obrom his member as he was told from the Phanackngan Ban. About the Nai Ban they didn't set up a new one, but they had two new persons from the other village to work with the Nai Ban, that men called Phanack Ngan Ban and Neo Ban. The Neo Ban work everything with the Nai Ban, he had to go and see the villagers himselfes and told the villagers everything that the Tasseng commanded him to tell the villagers. About Phanack Ngan Ban his job is to recruited the rice and food from the killagers, and to propagated, and this man is the presedent of the meeting. They established three associations (1) The old association, aged 50 to 70 years old. (2) The young man association, aged 15 to 50 years old. (3) The young woman association, aged 15 up to 50 years old.

The function of all the association:

- (1) The old association: These olds have a function to Obrom the villagers when they get angry to each other, when someone disagreed with each other and cause to be fighting. The head of the old association must Obrom to make them agree to each other if they didn't believe or respected to the old association, they head of the old association would report to Neo Ban, and the Neo Ban have to make them agree to each other.
- (2) The young man association: Their function is to work on the Hay to improve the Hay's havest. Chao Phanack Ngan away tell this association to grow more rice, and raise more cattle. These persons had gone to Lam Liang too, they went to Lam Liang and in their own Tasseng's boundary. The supplies they Lam Liang are sometimes the gun power, and sometime the consuming's supplies.
- (3) The young woman association: The work for these association's member are not very hard, their works are about cooking the food for the entertainment of the Khana Tasseng who rarely come to this village. For the supplies they use to cook is depended on Phanack Ngan Ban. The Phanack Ngan Ban recruited the supplies for cooking from the villager.

There was no PL's soldiers in this village there was only civilian officers who were called Phanack Ngan Ban, and Neo Ban only. But there was sometimes the coming of 10-15 soldiers of PL to this village, everytime they came in Phanack Ngan Ban have to recrute food from the villager for them, sometime the PL came about 200-300 of soldiers in this village, but, what time they came by 200-300 of soldiers they took the food themself not asking any thing from the villagers. About the meeting it took place everytime that the Khana Tasseng penetrated in. For the meeting it had been lasted for one day from 7 O'clock in the morning until 9 O'clock in the evening. They all many Bans that located near by come together. All of the villagers who would go to the meeting must take their own food to eat themselves fro one day. It the meeting (usually take place in the big wood, the Khana Tasseng is the president, there was Nai Ban Neo Ban, Phanack Ngan Ban and 3-4 of soldier. Their plans were propagated by Khanatasseng.

Their propaganda: The Khanatasseng siad "Our people, this is a good time to see you here, it very hard to have the time to see you all here we would like to explain you about all of our aims to you. Nai Ban, Neo Ban Phanack-ngan, these men are all your friend if you hav some problem that you couldn't solve yourselves, please discuss that problem with our three men. They are all would be ready to help every thing you ask them, I wish you all to believe in their intellect. These three men would help you everyting you wanted them to help. We wish you to tell us every times you have seen our enemy, don't help them anything don't believe their propaged because they are all the servants of the emperor of America, these men would sell our country to the emperor with a bit of some money. So to risist them to the other country and rid them off from our country we needed your helping, only our soldier is not enough if you all the young men would become the soldiers I think that was one way to show your patriotism. For the ode men we sish you to encourage your young to grow more rice and raise more cattle to support our army and to enbourage them to rid off our enemy from our country as soon as we can. Another way for the old men could help me are to be the spies. We wanted you to report me right away if you see the enemy. We think we would be able to rid our enemy off from our country sooner if you all do as we suggested.

Please keep in your old village we think that no place is better than our house, if you all moved out please thank that we can reach everywhere and would see you all later, that time there was no forgiveness for you all. Please love and help each other, grow more rice, raise more cattle, our victory will come soon." when the president of the meeting finished his talk, they (PL) told the villager about anything and they told the story about their fighting courageous until midday and then they began to have lunch. They jointed their food together along the wood they set by two lines faced to each other. For the Khanatasseng, Neo Ban, Nai Ban, Phanack Ngan, and the soldiers eating together at another place nearby the villagers. When they finished eating they relaxed until 6 O'clock, during this time no one have a right to go home, they went to look for some wood to burn to make fire for Lam Vong in the night, and then went they had enough wood they burned them when that area getting clear they began Lam-Vong about Lam Vong the refugees told me that there was no name for it they only call Lam Vong, they use empty caus hit to each other and applauding for the music. The song which they sing are Lao's workds, they Lam Vong until midnight and then get sleep together there, and went back home in the next morning.

The way they moved out: Mr. Kham Phou the Nai Ban of Ban Sting who didn't want to be with the PL had sent 7 of his men in secret to our RLG area to be the soldiers with the RLG's army and report to the head of the army that time was Mr. Xia, this man (mr. Xia) is the old Tasseng of Ban Nam Hiang, when Mr. Xia knew about the purpose of the coming of 7 men, he received them as the soldiers, and then in May 1965, Mr. Xia and 30 of the soldiers penetrated in Ban Sting to take out all of the villagers tere. That time there wasn't any PL in this village, so these soldiers took out the villagers easily without fighting against PL. When they moved out they walked through to Phou Louang which located 7 Km from Ban Sting. And then they got in the airplane and flew to Pakse.

The custom of Alak's Ethnic Group: Ban Sting was their real place. They didn't move from anywhere, they called themselves ban Sting's Alak. These people worship in Phi. They cured their illness by magic, they would always lose pigs, buffalo, any way when the member of that family were sick, it would be the pig or the buffalo this would depend on the megician said that what did Phi wanted. We would know easily that how many of one family had killed the buffalo to offer the Phi, this is because of the post infront of his house. How many post that was the real number of the buffaloes were killed. When they had killed the buffalo, the heads of the buffalo they didn't throw away, they keep it infront of the door's house and worship it.

The marriage of Alak: For Alak's girl she always get sleep outside the house alongs this is for give the boy occasion to play with her she would get sleep with every boy that come to play with her in the night time even that man is her boy fried or not. If someone come to play wity her must stay overnight with her in her house. When they get married some time the boy pay for the marrige, sometimes the girl/~~king/for/~~ pay for, to have the boy. This is depended on the boy and girl have paid the monay for the marriage, if the girl would go to stay with the man's family, the man have to pay for the married, when they goto stay with whom they must feed and treat the parent that they have stayed with until the parents died. They could separate when they pay back all of the money they had paid at the marriage time.

Life in their old village when there was no PL: They like to grow rice on the Hay they had never done Na. They grow tobacco, there was no school here, but when they lived with PL at Ban Nam Niang Khanatasseng had taught them when they penetrated in the village.

The way they taught: They called all of the villagers aged 50 years old down to 15 come together at the shadow of the trees and then they wrote the letter on the gib paper and nailed it on the tree then taught how to read ~~it~~ and let the villagers read together until they memorized it, when the villagers read together until they memorized it, when the villagers memorized it they told the villagers to try to read and write themselves during the time they were out and would come to give the next lesson next time. When they came back again they reviewed the old lesson if the villagers couldn't read, they still taught the old ~~it~~ lesson, if the villager could read and write they went the next lesson. They did like this everytime they came in the village, and these villagers told me that they could read and write that time. There was no transportation they used only the basket on their back to fill in the thongs. There was no market they used our RLG's money.

Life in the new village: They were supported by our RLG for two years. They had grown te rice in their own Hay here at Ban Oudomsouk, they had grown too, the weat, tobacco, chilli, egg-plants and variety vegetables. Their children were attended school here. There was no market, they went to the market in Pakse when they wanted to sell and buy someting. There was a hospital at Oudomsouk.

The biography of Nai Ban, of Ban Sting: Mr. Kham Phou, aged 58 years old, had never become a monk, had never been soldier, had never attended school, he could read and write Lao a lettle. He was set up as Nai Ban in 1962 unti now.

ORA/Outhen NOKHAM/ps:12-30-70

TO: Fritz Benson

Dec 31, 1970

FROM: Outhen NOKNAM (Pakse)

SUBJECT: Refugees Report at Ban Oudomsouk, who moved from Ban Nam Hiang, Tasseng Nam Hiang, Muong Kao, Khoueng Attoupeu.

Ethnic Group: Alak (Old Refugees)

Originally, there were about 35 families and 205 persons in their old village. They had moved out to Ban Oudomsouk only 23 families and 117 persons. They moved out on 14 November 1967. They moved out by walking to Ban Houa Muong, getting in the helicopter there to Phou Luang, and they get in the airplane at Phou Luang and flew to Pakse.

Reason for Moving: In March 1967 the PL came to fight this area, our soldier couldn't resist them, so they took the villagers out into the wood around their old village, they don't let the villagers stay in the village because they were afraid of the airplane.

The 9 months in living with PL: The refugees told me that it was very hard life in staying with them for 9 months. During these 9 months they didn't stay in the same place, they've always moved out to the other place when they had lived there for one or two months. They moved out only 2 Km from the old place, when they moved out where they would stay they have to dig the hole near their houses and in their Hay too, to hide themselves when the airplane come, but during these 9 months there wasn't any bombing in this area. When they moved out to the other place they were still coming to work on their old Hay. These PL didn't help these villagers working on the Hay or any thing, but they recruited the rice and food from these villagers. These villagers had gone to the meeting once a week. Phanack Ngan Ban was the president of the meeting and this Yi is the man who propagated. Everytime they began their meeting at 9 O'clock and ended at about midnight. Everyone who would go to the meeting have prepared their own food to consume one day with him. The meeting took place 3 or 4 Km far from their village.

Their Meeting: In the morning they began the meeting at 9 O'clock they began to propagate and make the villagers understand their plan until 12 O'clock they have a break for lunch, when they finished having lunch they began to look for some wood for their party in the evening, when 3 O'clock come they began their meeting again, until 5 O'clock, this time they had a break again, then at 7 O'clock in the evening they began to play the play, and ended by victory Lam Vong or Lam Vong Xaysana until midnight, they get sleep together at the meeting and went to their own house in the next morning. They did like this every time they have meeting.

Their Propaganda: "Our people we are very glad to see you all here again, we don't think that you would get tired of coming to the meeting, the meeting is a good way to make your friendship between your villager and you, and this is the way to make you forget your homesick. Please think that this is your old houses. We would have more land and more property if we have our independence please keep in this land to wait for the independence, please grow more rice and raise more cattle to make this land the same as your old village, we would help you defended our enemy we won't let them to come to bother you. Don't be

afraid of the airplane it would land any way if it was out of gasoline, it couldn't fly in the air to look for us all day long, and it wouldn't see us if every body keep our village in secret, there was bombing by the airplane in the other area because there was the spies of the enemy in that village. In our village here I don't think that there was the enemy's spies in, if someone in this village are the spies of the enemy please changed your mind before it is to late, and if we find out that someone are the enemy spies that men would be killed in front of the all villagers here, we wish you all to report us right away if you saw the enemy. We think you all understand what I said, but I will repeat it again to make you understand clearly". And then the president told one of the soldier who joint in the meeting repeat as he had talked before and the soldier said every words the same as the president's words. When the soldiers finished talking they ask the villager if they understand or not, when the villager said that they understood, the president called out one of the villagers to come to speak in front the others, when this man finished his talk they asked the villagers if someone had question about anything please ask them. They answered all of the villagers' question until 12 O'clock this is the lunch time and they both PL and the villagers have lunch.

They began their meeting again at 3 O'clock in the afternoon, this time they only review the old word which they had talked in the morning. This time lasted 2 hours, and they have a break to have dinner. At 7 O'clock in the evening they began again, this time they burned the wood which they had jointed them together in the afternoon, and then they began to play the play. Before they played one of the soldier come to speak about the story they would play. The story is always about their victory in fighting, when he finished talking the play began. All of the player are soldiers, when they finished their play they began to Lam Vong. The called of thier Lam Vong is Lam Vong Xaysana (victory Lam Vong) their music is only the empty of the can, and the song which they sang are Lao's song. They danced until midnight and after that they went to sleep together at the same place at the meeting. They came home in the next morning. There at Ban Nam Hiang they raise the poultry and some pigs. They (PL) established two association:

- (1) The called association of Pab Pong Mou Phouak (the friend's adjust association).
- (2) They called association of Khana Sot Naem (the spies association).

The work of the Pab Pong Mou Phouak (Friend's adjust association)

These men have to go to advise all of the villager to grow more rice and raise more cattle. These men too have to make the other forget their old village in the evening these men had to go to the families who seemed to be homesick. They told joke story and said everything that make them joinment and forget thinking of their old village.

The work of the association of Khana Sot Naem (Spies association)

These men had to go in secret to the villagers' house to listen what they said. They had stayed under the villagers' house all night and report to Nai Ban everything they had said before they went to bed.

They didn't establish any association beside these two associations. About Nai Ban and Nai Tasseng they didn't set up a new persons yet, but they have their own officer to work with Nai Ban and Nai Tasseng these persons called, Phanack Ngan Ban, Neo Ban, and Neo Tasseng to work with them and watched what the Nai Ban and Nai Tasseng and jointed together to solve the problem. Neo Ban is the man who received the report from the head of the two association. When he know about what the villager talked and planed to do, if someone talked the different way from their planw this man (Neo Ban) have gone to that house and told them that he knew what they had been talking last night and told them to change their plant by promising that " if you plan or talk about this subject again you would be punished." These villagers told me that they didn't say anything beside than planning to grow more rice and to raise more cattle. The villager who talk like this must always be praised by PL. After spent 9 months in living with them, they get more tired of in staying longer, so Nai Tasseng of Ban Nam Hiang sent his men in secret to report to our RIG's soldiers at Phou Luang in November 2,1970 and then on 13 of November 1970. Our soldiers penetrated in this villages that time there was fighting. But not very hard none of the villagers were killed. The PL couldn't resist our soldiers that time, so our soldier took out all of the villager to Ban Houa Miong by walking, and got in the helicopter there to Phou Luang, and flew through Pakse area.

Life in their old village when it wasn't occupied by PL! They grow rice on their Hay and Na, they grow banana tree, sugar cane, there was a school in this village with 4 classroom. P I., P II., P III., there was two classes of P I., there was no hospital, there was no market there was no transportation, they used only the basket on their backs. They used our RIG's money to buy things.

Life in the new village: These refugees were supported by our RIG for one year, and then they have grown rice on their Hay here at Ban Oudomsouk, they ~~grow~~ grown rice on their Hay here at Ban Oudomsouk, they grow to tobacco, egg-plants chilli, and casava. All of their children attended school here at Ban Oudomsouk. They already could supported themselves.

The biography of Nai Tasseng of Ban Nam Hiang: Mr. Yort, aged 59 years old, had never became a monk, he had been the ADC once for three years. He was set up as Nai Ban in 1945 until 1952 and was set up as Nai Tasseng in 1953 until now

TO: Fritz Benson

Dec 31, 1970

FROM: Othen NOKHEM (Pakse)

SUBJECT: Refugees Report at Ban Oudomsouk, who moved from Ban Pak Youk
Tasseng Nam Hiang, Muong Kao, Khoueng Attapeu.

Ethnic Group: Alak (Old Refugees)

Originally, Ban Pak Youk is a small village in their old village there was only 11 families and 49 persons, and now here at Ban Oudomsouk there was 11 families and 49 persons. These villagers moved out in May 1965 they moved out to Phou Luang by walking and got in the airplane there, and then flew to Pakse.

Reason for Moving: The soldiers took them out because this is a small village, it very difficult for the soldiers to go to patrol in this village, so the soldiers think that it was a good way to move them to Ban Nam Hiang, in May 1965, but when they took the villagers to Ban Nam Hiang there villagers didn't want to stay there, so these villagers asked for favor from the soldiers to send them to Pakse, and that time the soldiers agreed with them, so they took the villagers to Phou Luang, and these villagers got in the airplane and flew to Pakse that time was in May 1965. And they all were taken to Ban Oudomsouk by the motorcar, so they all stayed there since until now.

Life in their old village: In this village the villagers liked to go hunting they used thier crossarrow. For the arrows they have the poison at the point of it, when they shot the wild animal it would die in a few minutes later. The PL penetrated in this village, but not very often, they come once month with 2-3 persons together, everytime they penetrated in they always asked for the rice which had been cooked. And the food which is ready to eat, they don't ask for anything beside this. They've always come in 6 O'clock when it's began to getting dark when they have enough thing they went out without saying.

The villagers in this village liked to grow rice on the Hay and Na, here at Ban Pak Youk the villagers told me that they have a wide land to grow more rice. They have grown too, banana, sugar can, chilli, and variety vegetables on their own garden, there was no school their children went to school at Ban Nam Hiang there was no hospital when they were sick they cured by the magician, and always lost some pigs, buffaloes and anything as the magician told them what kind of animal he have to offer it to Phi to cure their illness. There was no market. They use only our LRG's money. There wasn't any transportations here in Ban Pak Youk, they used only the basket on their backs to carry thing.

Life in the new village: Here at Ban Oudomsouk these refugees were supported by our RIG for two years, after that they supported by themselves by the havest which they had from their own Hay here. In their Hays here they grew tobacco, chilly, egg-plants, with the havest from their Hay they could consume all years. No one of these refugees went to work in the other place, they've just working on their own Hay. There children were attended school here at Ban Oudomsouk. When they wanted to buy or sell something, they went to the market in Pakse area.

The biography of Nai Ban: Mr. Khot, aged 45 years old, had never been soldier had never become a monk. He was set up as the Nai Ban in 1967 until now.

ORA/Outhen NOKHAM/ps:12-31-70

MUONG SAYASILA, KHOUENG ATTOPEU (SURVEY 1970)

<u>NAME OF VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDINATE</u>	<u>POPULATION</u>
1. Chaluang	XB-880810	31
2. Chaveo	XB-8369 Approx.	102
3. Houei Bong	XB-879797	37
4. Houei Chot	XB-634622	167
5. Houei Kong	XB-640726	229
6. Houei Soi	XB-648552	141
7. Katantok	XB-742717	27
8. Keo Thun Meung	XB-750550	51
9. Lasameui	XB-705475	115
10. Lasasine	XB-728646	146
11. Meun Hua Meung	XB-880839	101
12. Nam Chick	XB-824671	36
13. Nam Han	XB-8767	69
14. Nam Ho	XB-800718	33
15. Nam Hong	XB-680766	75
16. Nam Kong	XB-710560	104
17. Nam Leng	XB-720480	75
18. Nam Liang	XB-644632	99
19. Nam Nga Teung	XB-760670	—
20. Nam Nga Lum	XB-775675	122
21. Nam Tiang Lum	XB-790618	100
22. Nam Tiang Teung	XB-770623	76
23. Nam Tuat	XB-705714	45
24. Nong E-01	XB-654720	191
25. Nong Hin	XB-723750	79
26. Nong Home	XB-702522	44

<u>NAME OF VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDINATE</u>	<u>POPULATION</u>
27. Nong Kin Nyai	XB-655718	114
28. Nong Mek Kang	XB-645737	47 est.
29. Nong Mek Noi	XB-673762	50
30. Nong Mek Nyai	XB-669770	190
31. Nong Nyao	XB-648738	30
32. Nong Panuane	XB-644632	139
33. Nong Theum Nyai	XB-687743	115
34. Nong Toun	XB-670720	84
35. Nong Tuang	XB-Not sure coor.	72
36. Pho Toub	XB-Not sure coor.	56
37. Senamnoi	XB-740590	79
38. Taot	XB-662672	63
39. Ta Yeuk Sua	XB-697674	76
40. Thong Nyao	XB-App. 783686	72
41. Thong Wai	XB-App. 630790	59
42. Upassa	XB-660702	84
	<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>3,725</u>

ORA:ps:6-2-71

TO : Mr. Haward S. Lewin, ORA/Pakse
FROM : Outhen NOKHAM, ORA/Pakse
SUBJECT : Situation in Houei Kong and Pakseong's area.

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(These words that appear below were told me by Mr. Onh La one of the 6 refugees who arrived to Pakse on 15th-7-1971, and now he is living at KM-12 (Pakseong Road). When he was in Houei Kong he was a worker of the RLG'S saw mill).

Situation in Houei Kong during 19th-7-1971 to 11th-7-1971

On 15 th April 1971 Houei Kong was fought by PL plus NVA and our FAR there, bravely fought against them until 19th April 1971 our FAR couldn't resist them(PL &NVA) so the could occupied this area since. After that for about 5 days PL check up about the number of the census of this area with all of Nai Bans to see how many people still living in the village, when they saw that how many people living in the villages all of the old Nai Bans were cancelled. None of the old ~~old~~ Nai Ban working ~~at~~ during this period of time, and PL didn't set up the new one to take care of this position until June. They've just set up the new persons taking care of this position on the end of June, (but they didn't call Nai Ban they call PHUTHAEN (The villager's agent) for 7 villages in Houei Kong are, but Mr. Onh La can remember only the name of PHUTHAEN of Ban Lasasin (XB 7565) other than this he couldn't know their names because they were the remote areas. The name of Ban Latsasin's PHUTHAEN is Mr. NUAW and his two assistances one ~~man~~ man and one woman Mr. Xan and Miss Phuang. The others area that were already set up the PHUTHAEN for are: B. Nantiang Theung (XB7962) B. Nantiang Lum (XB7861) B. Nam Tuat(XB7870) B. Tayuaksua (XB7567) B. Houei Chot, B. Photub. Mr. NUAW and both of his assistances are the villagers of this village (B+Latsasin) The old Tasseng of Houei Kong had already moved to Pakse area before Houei Kong was occupied by PL, and PL didn't set up anyone to take care of the Tasseng's Position yet. For the Chao Muong the old one had been escaped from Houei Kong to Pakse, and now PL had already set up the new new Chao Muong that they called KHANAMUONG and one of the KHANAMUONG's assistance Khanamuong that were set up by PL named Mr. Neuanh and his assistance named Mr. Yanh. Both of them are the villagers of Houei Kong In Houei Kong town now there were only some of the empty shops without any goods to sell because all of the goods were out and the merchants couldn't bring the merchandise from the other area into Houei Kong town. Mr. Onh La told me that NVA also buy some good from the shop, but always paid by the half of the goods's price by our RLG's money. About the soldiers there were only 20-30 both PL and NVA in the village, but Mr. Onh La ~~is~~ said that there must have a lot of PL and NVA ub ~~the~~ wood around Houei Kong because PL didn't allow anyone go into the wood if the villagers wanted to go to their Hay they have to go along the path through their Hay not going out from the path. ~~xxxxxxx~~ The big gun 106 M.M. was set up at the saw mill in Houei Kong. One day during May 1971 NVA were shooting this big gun 106 M.M. and Mr. Onh La went by this area, and he asked them in Lao language that "What are you shooting?" they didn't answer even he asked for many time in Lao language, but when he asked them in vietna nese they answered right away that "We just tried to shoot to the exact point".

there was no means of the transportation in Houei Kong during this period. All of the civilian military's truck and USAID's truck were cut off all of the tires because NVA wanted only the truck's tires, ~~with~~ with the tires they use to make their shoes. During this area was occupied by PL there wasn't any assassination of villagers and there wasn't any bombing by the airplane. All of the villagers were always call to the meeting two or t hree times in a month, but about the subject of the meetin is always the same one. There was a bery important meeting tooke place in this area. The president of this meeting is General Khamohanh, all of the old Nai Ban and Nai Tasseng that still living in Houei Kong area were call to Joint this meeting. It took place on 5th July 1971, at the Christian's temple in Ban Nong I Oy (XB8573). About General Khamchanh He came to Houei Kong on 2nd 7-71 and tayed in Mr. Kreng's house (Mr. Kreng is Our RIC's soldiers his rank is sergean, and now he is living in Pakse area) untill 5th 7-1971. He left Houei Kong a~~fter~~ after finishing his work on the meeting. In the meeting PP anxious to know about the gun that these villagers have own when this area was under our control. Mr. Onh La said that PL have a list of the names of the village's defenders and the kind of the guns they have owned, someone (villagers) had gave them the guns that they have owned, but someone didn't give them by refusing that they have already given back to ~~the~~ our RIC's PAR, but realy they didn't give back to our Par they have burried it in the ground in the wood near by their houses Here is the tecnique that they cause some of these villagers gave them the guns. "Your Chao Muong and 400 hundred of the RIC's soldiers were arrested by us now. Your Chao Muong he know that who still didn't giving back the guns and who had already giving back the gun. He would tell us that who still didn't giving back the gun yet, so if we ~~w~~ wait until that day the persons who told us a lie must be taken to the prison, so the better way is to give us the gun today before your Chao Muong tell us and you all won't be taken to the orisons". The reason that some of villagers gave them the gun is they believed PL that their Chao Muong were arrested by them and they were afraid of being in the prison. For the others they already known that Chao Muong had already gone to Pakse before Houei Kong was fought by PL, so they don't afraid of them. Here is the propaganda that was propogated by General Kham Chanh when he was the president of the meeting on 5th July 1971 at the Christian's temple in Ban Nong I Oy. " We would like to have you all help each other in ridding our enemy off from our country, we have now two of our neighbor's countries that would help us. Our Indochine Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia have the same enemy, that enemy is the emperor of America. They won't have anyway to win in this area because they lived far away from our country We must win because we have three persons (Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia) fighting against only one man coming from the very far area. We wanted all of you to help us instead of the enemy by anyway you can. And the other thing that we want to suggest you is about the agricultural. We wanted you to grow the cassavas and the yam beans instead of the rice. It not

important to grow rice now because if you grow rice it may be destroyed by the bombing from the airplane and if we grow the cassavas and the yam beans it faster to have the harvest, and it's as good for our body as the rice. One family ought to grow about 200-300 plants. About the harvest of each year you can consume all the year. We would like you all take our suggestion and believed us and stay with us here, we promised that we would help you as we can. Good by and see you all latter."

PL took everything from the house that its owner had moved to Pakse, but they didn't take and asking for something freely from the villagers in Houei Kong. By the administrative PL called Ban Houei Kong Tasseng Houei Kong, Muong Phou Lang Keo, Khouang Xay Som Boune.

Before they (6persons) left Houei Kong they went to ask for the uthorized card from KHA NA MUONG, but that time 10th 7-71 Chao KHA NA MUONG went to the meeting at the Center of PL(They don't know that where the center is) still living there only Mr. Yanh his assistance. The Chao Muong office that time is Mr. Kreng's house. Before they gave them the uthorized card these six persons were asked that "Why do you want to go to Pakse?" they answer that "We would go to take our families here because they are now in the hospital in Pakse. They went to the hospital for several month ago, so they couldn't coming back here themselves without ous." By this answering PL give them right away the uthorized card. They (6Persons) started moving to Paksong on 11th 7-71 at 7:30a.m. by four of the bicycles. They passed Ban Nong Khouang Noi, Ban Nong Khouang Ngai and arrived to Paksong at the same day. At Ban Houei Mak Chanh (XB5178) they saw 15 NVA with the A.K. in their hands they headed to Houei Kong. These 15 NVA didn't ask them any question. These six persons stayed overnight in Paksong for Two days in Mr. Chio's house (Chinese) still living in this house only his ~~xxx~~ servant, about Mr. Chio he already move to Pakse. These six persons know the servant of Mr. Chio Very well, so they stay with him in this house.

Situation in Paksong during the two days
(11/7-13/7/71)

Paksong still have five shops opening to sell thing, but for the Kerosene, Sugar, salt, were already sold out, there were no more of these goods to sell in all of these five shops. They still selling there only some clothes and some of the other goods that these persons couldn't remember all of them. They haven't seen any Tank in Paksong none of the big gun was set up in this area they (6 Persons) have seen only about 10-15 of Both PL & NVA during these two days in this area. Before they left Paksong they have shown their uthorized card to KHA NA MUONG in Paksong Mr. Boun Om. These six persons were asked by Mr. Boune Om that "Why do you want to go to Pakse? Do you all know that Pakse is the area of the enemy?" These refugees replied him as they told the assistance of KHA NA MUONG Houei Kong, but Mr. Boun Om Promised with these six persons that " All of you must return during the 15 days from now on, if not when we could occupied Pakse and ~~xxx~~ saw you there latter you all may be killed". They starting moving to Pakse on 13th-7-71 at 9:30 a.m. because of it was raining that time they could move on the daytime

They headed to Ban Kaly (XB 3485) and went through Ban Ka Ngong Kang. At Ban Ka Ngong Kang they saw 6 NVA with the A.K. in their hand, NVA didn't asked them anything. They (6 Persons) go ahead to ban Kapeu at the way they saw again 4 of NVA one of them was wounded. These ~~xxxx~~Four NVA headed to Ban Kaly. And they saw too, the Tank's foot print along the way to Ban Kapeu but they didn't see any tank. They went passed Ban Phakout (XB 3994) then through Ban Somsanouk. They stayed overnight in Ban Somsanouk for one day and then the latter day they got to Ban Keng Ngao (XB 0696). Along the way from Ban Kapeu to Ban Keng Ngao they didn't see any PL or NVA. They stayed overnight at Ban Keng Ngao one day. The latter day they were taken to Pakse by the military truck on 15th 7-1971. And now 5 of them stayed ~~xxx~~ with their families at KM-4 reception center. 1 of them stayed with his family at KM-12 (Paksong Road). They didn't receipt any relief supply yet.

Note: Their families were sent to Pakse before Houei Kong was fought by PL. ~~They~~

Your Truly
Guthen NORA/Pakse.

TO: Fritz Benson

July 21, 1971

FROM: Siya SOMPHONGSAVATH

SUBJECT: Refugee Report at Km 4 who move from Ban Houei Kong T. Houei Kong
M. Sayasila, K. Sedone.

There were six people come from Ban Houei Kong after yesterday morning about 10 O'Clock. Now 5 of these people live at refugees receptional center at Km 4 and one of them live at Km 12 Muong Pak Song road. These people are: Nai Lanh, Nai Ning, Nai Onela Thong, Nang Phanh, Nang Choun, Nai Dek.

These people left Houei Kong on July 11th, 1971 in the morning about 6 O'Clock, before leaving home they asked permission and note from PL. Chao Muong called (Pathan Muong) Thao Nern in Houei Kong. When they arrived at Muong Pak Song they asked mother permission from Pathan Muong Pak Song to get to Muong Pakse. Four of six people took their bicycles and other two walked to Muong Pak Song. The four people who rode bicycles reached Muong Pak Song about 13:00 PM and the other two reached Muong Pak Song about 6:00 PM. They went to Muong Pak Song through the main streets. Along the Muong Pak Song Houei Kong road they saw about 16 NVA. One of them with a phistol was met at the Houei Nak Chanh bridge and the other 15 with Aka guns were seen at about Km 13 Nong Khieng. When these six people met the MVA they were asked where would they go. These people answered that they would to Muong Pak Song.

They spent at Muong Pak Song two nights in Tiew (Chinese)'s house. They only saw about 30, enemies, PL Kha, and NVA are around in Muong Pak Song as most of them lived in the weed. These 30 PL or NVA might be the gards that look after the people. It seemed that there were not any source of transportation or any big guns in Muong Pak Song except the civial trans-
portations. Nai Lanh said there might be about a half of the members of Muong Pak Song people living there. OB. was burned out, two army farmer tonks at the foot of the hill where saravane's camp lacated before were also bombed.

In Muong Pak Song: The people in Muong Pak Song wer still walking aroind Muong Pak Song to buy someting as there still are fives Chinese shops opening to sell ~~goods~~ goods. Chinese whom these shops belong to are selling things. They use PL money to exchange or buything in Muong Pak Song. Nai Dan said that he still saw the animals grozing in Muong Pak Song area such as cattles. He doesn't know if the enemies use the people's animals there as food or not, but all of the properties in empty houses were taken away. Anythong that was not useful for them they just destroyed. According to his conversation with the people in Muong Pak Song, PL/NVA have health program and use their own medicine from Hanoi. No education program. The People in Muong Pak Song are allowed to go ingest food to the Hai-field, or in the forest. If they are not affraid of bombing from airplane. Our airplanes still fly over around Muong Pak Song almost every day but the airplanes have never been shot or chashed. Nai Dan doesn't know for sure Low after is the scial meeting set up in Muong Pak Song but he thinks that it might be held as after as in Houei Kong.

They left Muong Pak Song to Pak se at 9:00 AM on Tuesday July 13th 1971. They left Muong Paksong to the north to Ban Nong Kake which took them last then two hours. From Nong Kake so Khanhongkang that took them about last than an hour they continued walking from there to Ban Kapheu, it took them last then three hours and at luch there. Between Ban Kalu and Khanhongkang and Kapheu. They left Kapheu at 1:30 and reached Phakoud Noi at 4:00 PM. They continued walking from Phakoud Noi to Ban Somsunouk where they spent over night. In the morning, at 6:00 AM they left Somsanouk for Ban Houei Tao, and an after two villages that they don't know what they are called. After that they reached Oudomsouk where they spent last night. Nothing occured in their sight along this distance. This morning at about 6:50 AM they get on the army truck to Km 12 Muong Pak Song road and continued taking a taxi to Km 4, refugees reception.

Situation In Houei Kong:

Politics: As the situation in Houei Kong area was more dangeriogs the families of fuctionaires were more I to Pak se.

When Houei Kong was attacked to geckman., and USAID staffs and soldier moved to Pakse on foot. About Houei Kong full, PL/NVA set up the administration center in Houei Kong. The personnel of administration center in Houei Kong at present were follow:

Chao Muong (Khana Muong) Thao Neun, Assistant of Chao Muong (Long Khana Muong) these people are PL in the future they are going to make the people in the area to replace these peple control themselves life this:

Chao Muong (Khana Muong) Vice Chao Muong (Long Khana Muong)
Tasseng (Khana Tasseng)
Nai Ban (Kana Ban) or phouthen Ban.

Which mean the representatives of the villagers. These they are going to set up the police, Muong defence (thahan Muong) village defence (tha han Ban). They are also going to set up educational and public health program. These services are considered to be run by the people in the area.

Action: The enemies in Houei Kong are only NVA but there are only a few Laven and Nnaheune people who hold high positions. All of the 44 villages in Muong Sayasila area existed NVA and PL break down all the empty houses in order to have roofing Sheets and the properties needed in the houses. Anything they liked they used themselves others they just destroyed. Any empty houses which are taken care buy the relatives they do not destroy. Now the enemies are listing all the properties that the people own. None of the prople's properties are recruited sight now except the pigs.

All of the ADC soldiers were cought by PL/NVA the company of Thao Deun and Thao Ing were caught about the end of last month. Their guns were taken away. The social conference is held about one's week. The PL center office is held at Sgt. Treng's house. The house of Mr. John Davis American Missionary was also broken down in order to take roofing sheets

to make the PL/NVA camp. After Houei Kong full, the PL/NVA searched the soldiers in the forest around the area right way.

All of the weapons such as machine guns are not shown. People are not allowed to go out any where because the PL/NVA were afraid that they would recognize their weapons. VC exist only a fence in the village, may be 20-30 ~~every~~ every day as they also live in the wood.

Plan:

According to the PL conference the PL said that they still waited for the order from their commander if they would be allowed to attack Muong Pakse or not. If they were allowed to attack it, they would attack all of the cities in Laos except Champasak, Luang Prabang, Pakse, Savannakhet, and Vientiane and other areas would be not problem, they could break them very easily. Any person who moved out Houei Kong and Muong Pak Sang to Pakse would be killed if they are caught when Pakse fall in the future. They said, the conference between RLG government and PL government is now hell to find out agreement. If both parts of government would not agree each other in any decision, it was sure the cities they named above will be thus.

Permission or passport:

In the passport that PL/NVA came to these six people, they promised that they must be back by 15 days. If they would not go back they would be killed when Pakse is attacked. Nai Dan said, people are allowed to leave Houei Kong right now if they are not afraid of enemies along the road but after the administration center is completely set up the area will be closed then no body could go away.

ORA:ps:7-21-71

TO: Jack Williamson

Mar 16, 1971

FROM: Outhen NOKHAM, QRA/Pakse

SUBJECT: Refugees Report at Km 26 Khong Sedone Road, who moved from Ban Hom Lum (XB-8732) Tasseng Hom Theung, Muong Sekong, Khoueng Attopeu.

Ethnic Group: Lao (Refugees we supported)

In their old village the population is about 47 families and 240 persons. And all of them had moved out to Pakse area, first they all stayed together at Km 4 reception house, but then they moved out to the different location, here at Km 26 Khong Sedone Road there were 42 families and 220 persons, the rest of them 5 families and 20 persons moved to Houa Nam Phak. They moved out from their old village on October 1970.

Reason for moving: In 1968 there was a fighting in this area Ban Hom Lum, that time it was a terrible fighting with the bombing by the airplane, and all of the houses were destroyed, but none of these villagers were killed because that time they were all on their farms. When the fighting was gone this area was occupied by PL since. And all of these villagers have stayed on their farms since because all of their houses in the village were destroyed by the airplane. They all spent 2 years on their farms' houses under the control of PL, but the PL didn't bother them too much because these villagers are poor living, they just come to explain their plans and their propaganda. They sometime come with their old clothes in their hand to exchange something with the villagers. They PL didn't interest in these villagers too much, they seldom passed this area, they didn't stay over night in this village.

PL Propaganda for Ban Hom Lum: Everytime they propagated, they always encourage these villagers to hate the RIG. they said "the RIG are the cause of the coming of the war, and they are the country's traitor, they didn't give any pity on any villagers, like these present day, they came to bomb to our area any time felt want to kill the villagers. The bombing in the other area was worse than here, a lot of villagers were killed, but they (RIG) never worried about these villagers that were killed, instead of giving some pity on these villagers they laughed of them. Because of these reasons do you all still wanted to be with them and do you still wanted to be help them, now is it time? to rid them off from our country and give them back their fate that they prior give you all. We would be your helper to do so. At the prior we were as the same as you are right now our houses was destroyed by them, so we decided to retaliate them by become soldiers like you see right now, and we are now waiting for our good occasion to retaliate them, we don't mind if you (the young men) would become soldier in our army. I don't have enough time to be with you longer, because all of us have a lot of work to do. We think that our words would be considered by you all. We would come back again when we have a good occasion. Please try your best".

These PL didn't ask for anything freely from these villagers. The PL didn't set up the new Nai Ban that time was Mr. Sing (and he is still the Nai Ban at Km 26) and they didn't set up any association, not divided the villagers into group because it was very hard for PL because all of these villagers stayed on their own farms' house which located for far away from each other,

so it was so hard for them to control all of these villagers, and they didn't interest in these people so much. And these villagers had grown the rice on their farm, but they couldn't grow as much as usual, this is because of they were afraid of the airplane. They told me that they got up in the early morning and hurry to work on their farm and they have to stop working before the sun rise. And at the evening they began working when the sun set until it get dark, and they could work at night time when the full moon night. They said that it was very hard life they could go fishing only at the night that there wasn't moon in the sky.

The way they moved out: On 4th October 1970 our soldiers when by this area and that time PL were in the village, so there was a fighting, this time these village know that where our soldiers' side they moved to our soldier side, where all of these villagers come to our soldiers side. Our soldier took them off to Phou Luang and then they got in the airplane in Phou Luang and flew to Pakse the later day 5th October 1970. At the fighting that time none of these villagers were killed.

Life in their old village: These refugees are buddhism, there was a temple in this village. These villagers like to grow the rice on their farm, they grow too the rice on their HAY, but not as much as on their farm, they grow, tobacco, wheat, chilli, banana, sugar cane, egg-plants and the variety vegetables along the bank of the Sedone river. These raised too, pigs, poultry, cattle. They go fishing in Sedone river, there was a school with three classrooms P I., P II., P III. When the students finished school here they continued in Attopeu school. There wasn't any market in Ban Hom Lum, when the villagers wanted to buy thing they went to the market in Attopeu. There wasn't any means of transportation other than the ox cart. They used only our RIG money.

Life in the new location at Km 26: Here they said that they had already the land to grow the rice on, but they didn't clear it yet. They had already the equipment of doing the farming. They have built their own houses here. They expected to grow the rice this rainy season. They have a well in this village, these was no hospital nor market, they went to the market and the hospital in Pakse. There wasn't any school here none of their children attended school.

These were told me by Mr. Sing, Nai Ban of Ban Hom Lum. He is now 51 years old, he was set up as Nai Ban in 1965. He became a monk at the age of 13-18. He has been soldier in 1961-1964.

ORA/Outhen NOKHAM/ps:3-16-71

TO: Mr. Haward S. Lewin , ORA/USAID/Pakse.

Date 3/6/71

From: Outhen NOKHAM, ORA/Pakse.

Subject; Refugees report, who came from Ban Muong May(YB-0938) Tasseng Sekong, Muong Sekong, Khoueng Attoueu.

ETHNIC GROUP: LAO

In Muong May now there were still a lot of People there, the refugees told me that there were about 1500-2000 persons, but this number included by the others area's villagers who lived around M. May. There were only 10 families and 50 persons who had escaped from PL. this time. They moved out at the evening of 14th May 1971 and arrived Ban PHAPHO(XB1829) on 18th May 1971 and then arrived to Pakse on 20th May 1971.

THE WAY THEY ESCAPED: On 14th May 1971, that time it was almost getting dark, these refugees had worn in the bathing suit like they would go to take a bath. They didn't take anything with them only their children, so Nobody interested in them, when they arrived the bank of the Sekong river they got on the boat that were already there waiting for them, There were four boats altogether. The other day 15th May 1971 their boats arrived Ban Done Ngio, all of them get off the boat here and began to move on foot. They walked through the forest and this day they have seen three of the NVA. When the NVA saw them they shouted to these refugees that "Where will you go?"(they said in Lao, but not clearly) these villagers answered them that they would go to celebrate the festival, and the NVA said O.K. They spent three nights in the forest and then they have seen PL again on the 17th of May 1971. There were only three persons, one man in the uniform, one woman in Lao suit, and one boy on the back of the elephant. These refugees noticed that there were a lot of supplies on the elephant's back, they headed to Ban Done Ngio the way they had from. When they passed these refugees they asked them that "Where will you go?" These refugees answered them that they would go to celebrate the festival, BL said "We wish you all have a safely traval" and them they passed them. These refugees got to Ban PHAPHO on 18th May 1971. They had stayed here for two days and then on 20 of May 1971 the Helicopter took them from Ban PHAPHO to Pakse area, and now they are all living in Pakse.

REASON FOR MOVING: Do not want to stay with PL.
Wanted to follow their husbands.

LIFE UNDER THE PL IN M. MAY (ATTOPEU). At the month of April 1970 PL could occupy this area by riding our FAR off from this area. When they completely occupied this area. They set up new Nai Ban, Tasseng, and Chao Muong. The new Chao Muong that had been set up by OL is Mr. Chan Choum, with his two Assistants, both of them are Vietnamese. One of them named Ong Bang and the other these refugees couldn't remember his name. All of them had the residence in Muong May.

CHAO MUONG
MR. CHAN CHOUM

ASSISTANT (Vietnamese)
Ong Bang

ASSISTANT (Vietnamese)
?

They (PL) set up the new Tasseng toq, the old one named Mr. Som. And the new one is Mr. Phanh, this man was set up by the PL with three of his assistants.

NAI TASSENG

THAO PHANH

ASSISTANT (Lao)
(Economy Section)
Thao Lam

ASSISTANT (Lao)
(Governmental Section)
Thao Lo

ASSISTANT (Lao)
(Military Section)
Thao Sok

About Nai Ban this man is the old one, but PL established another two persons as his assistant his name is Mr Song

Nai Ban
Mr. Song

Assistant (Lao)
Thao teung

Assistant (Lao)
Nang Lone

PL divided the villagers into groups, each group there were about 40 persons and PL set up one man as the head of the group. The work of the group's head is to report all of the situation that happened in his group to Nai Ban. And he had to check up that how many livestock increase or decrease each month, and then report to Nai Ban. PL established three association in this village ASSOCIATION OF THE OLD ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG WOMAN and ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG MAN.

The OLD ASSOCIATION: This association didn't have a lot of work to do. They only persuade the young to have the yearly festival taken place in their village. And when there have been some of the wrangle couple in the village it's the work of this association to reconcile them.

YOUNG MAN ASSOCIATION: When some hard work like building the house, this association have to help the villagers without getting any repay from the house owner, but the house owner have to feed this association's members during they were working for them.

YOUNG WOMAN ASSOCIATION: This is the entertainmain association because sometimes when the OL troop penetrated in the village, they have to look for food and cooked it themselves. And every time that the festival (yearly) took place or when the high officer visited this area it's the work of this association to entertain them by dancing. There were three kinds of dancing 1.) DANCING OF ADMIRING THE XIENG KHOUANG'S BATTLE. 2) DANCING OF RECOVERING THE BOMB. 3) DANCING OF SIGHT SEEING SEKONG RIVER. Each dancing they have their own song that was composed by PL. Here is one of the song that the refugees could remember.

ADMIRING OF XIENG KHOUANG'S BATTLE.

We admired the victory of xieng Khouang's battle that could rid off all of our enemy. And could get back our military base. Killed all of American and the country's treacherous dog who is daring penetrated in our country that was formely occupied by us. Phou Khae at Xieng Khouang, Phou Xouang at Muong Soui, the national flag with the wite, and red was blown on the sky, like the stars decorated the sky. Muong Phouane reminded our Laotian enjoyable. Our Laotian decided to fight against the enemy and killed them all for getting back all of the part in Laos. We admired the bravely will of all the PL soldiers at the Xieng Khouang's battle. It was our great victory that could get back our old area. Our Laotian admired all of the soldier at Xieng Khouang military base until we have the complete victory in Laos./.

BOMBING AND ASSASSINATION OF VILLAGERS: There wasn't any bombing and assassination of villagers in Muong May. Our force didn't bomb exactly to Muong May, but all of the village around here were bombed by the airplane so all of the villagers who lived around had moved in and staying with the villagers here. In Muong May these refugees told me that there were only three of the NVA who permanent living with them, ten of PL police man and about 15-20 soldiers, all of these police man and the soldiers had never shown their rank, so all of these refugees hadn't known who is the higher rank or who is the lower rank, they knew only this man is the police or this man is the soldier, there were some of the officers as the teacher and the medics, there were a lot of the teachers, but there were only three of the medics. Their names are. Thao Seuth, Thao Vongvilay, Thao Ly. The PL and NVA always passed this area, but they didn't stay in the village for a long time, they only come to take a rest for a few hours and then went away.

TAXATION OF RICE FROM THE VILLAGERS: At the last harvest season PL had taken rice from all of the farmers, they charged that one family with 5-6 members have to give them 5-6 Kalong (gasoline container) or a family with one or two members have to give them one or two Kalong. These rice PL keep it in their own warehouse that was built up several days before. And when all of the farmers had given them (PL) the rice PL had another work for these villagers that work is to transform the paddy to the milled rice. One family have to work with 5 Kalong of paddy. PL didn't recruit anything from the villagers other than the rice.

AGRICULTURE: PL encouraged these villagers to grow the vegetables, but these villagers had grown only for consuming themselves along the bank of the Sekong river. PL allowed these villager to go to their farms and garden, but before they go they have to inform the head of the group first. They could go fishing by boat, and they can easily catch fishes because there were a lot of fishes in Sekong river, so all of them are not short of food in this area.

EDUCATION: In Muong May there were two kinds of teaching program, first for adult, seconds for children.

FOR CHILDREN: All of the children aged 8-17 years old could attend school. There were a lot of the primary school in Muong My because all of these school had been built by our RIG when this area were controled by our RIG and when PL could occupy this area and all of the school were not damaged by the fighting so PL used these school to teach the children. All of the teachers are from another area. PL taught only PI - PIV and stop. There wasn't any college to continue.

FOR ADULT: There wasn't any school's building for these people, and everyone have a right to attend this school's program. PL taught these villagers by talking like they give them the Propaganda. They didn't teach them how to read and write, they didn't teach day to day, some times they taught once a week, but sometimes two or three times a week. Their school is the under the floor of the biggest house, but not at the same place, they (PL) always change place to teach. Here is the subject for teaching adult school. (the teacher of this school sometimes is the Chao Muong or Sometimes is the others officer who visit this area)

"From now on this area had been occupied by us (PL) because of all of the enemy had been rid off from this area by, that mean you are free from them and from now on you are under our control, we would like you all intend to work to help our contry which was almost occupied by the enemy. We don't mean that we wanted you to fight against them, but the work for you all is to increase more and more your garden's and farm's product, the rest of your needed would be available for our troop who are now very busy in fighting against the enemy. If you give us a tin of rice or anything that mean you kill one or two of enemy's soldiers. Another way you could help your country is when you saw the enemy please report to us right away, if you don't may be this area would be bothered by them, and then we won't be able to stay in this area longer if we don't destroy them all".

HEALTH: About this program PL hadn't built up any new dispensary, but they used the old one that had been built up by our RIG, and they use only one hospital because they don't have many medics to take care of it, and their medicine isn't enough for the needing of the villagers in this village. There was only three of medics as I had told before. About the sanitation the medics told these villagers to boil the water before drinking, but there were a few of them agreed with that notice, but the association of the young woman have to boil the water anyway to offer the PL troop when they came in the village.

MARKETING: There wasn't any small or big shop along the road because they (merchants) couldn't bring the merchandise from another area into Muong May but ~~xx~~ in this village there was a market, it remain the same place as when this area was occupied by our RIG PL forbid these villagers not to set up the market by telling these villagers that they (PL) won't have any responsibility on it if the airplane come to bomb this area when they ~~xx~~ saw a crowd of people but the villagers still going to sell and buy thing here, and didn't listen to the PL's forbidden. The merchandise that were selling here, there was two kinds ~~xx~~ that PL brought from China they are the plough(the part that use to dig the ground) and the soap. One loaf of soap cost 30k, but these refugees didn't know about the price of the plough.

They bought the salt from SELAMPHAO at the south of Attopeu, they brought the salt here by boat.

The price of the salt is 1 Kg = 120k

The price of the milled rice is 12 Kg = 1500k.

The sheapest thing in this market is the fishes.

THEIR LIVELIHOOD: Mostly of them are farmers. Nobody work with the PL office because there wasn't any salary for them. And none of them were hired by PL to work for them, PL always asked them work freely. They(villager) raised too the cattle and livestock, but not for sell they have each family two-three buffaloes and oxen for pulling the ox-cart. There were only the bicycle in this village. No motorcycle because none of the gasoline were sold here. All of them still used our RIG's money. The PL expected these villagers to use their money in the next years, but this year they only show their money to these villagers and told them that " Next year you have to use these money" There were the ill of 50 k and 200k that they have shown to the villager this time.

LIFE WHEN THEY BECOME REFUGEES: Here at Pakse they have already met their husband and stay with their busband here, but their husband didn't have their own house yet, so they are all living in their relatives' house here in Pakse. They are now waiting for our relief commodities. They are living at KM-3, Ban Thahin, Ban Houei lao, Someone(refugee) their husband married another girl, but when his old wife escaped from the PL and come to stay with him, but there was no problem because his new wife and the old had already reconciles.

These were told me by Mrs. Kham Phou one of the refugees from Attepeu.

Your truthfully.
Outhen NOKHAM, ORA/Pakse,