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## MR 1 reports by Frederic Benson. 1971/1973

[s.l.]: [s.n.], 1971/1973

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November 11, 1971

Fritz,

Got some head count problems @ L-54 that we need straightened out ASAP. I would like to cut the C-46 drops in their entirety & drop from L-54 w/ a 'bou. But, first, I need to know what the drop requirement is.

A good guy to contact is Lt Manh who is air ops @ the AB-1 shack. He may not know the T-D-R figures but he will pass you on to Capt. Ounuea or some body who will come up w/ a good story.

Attached is the October drop report which brings up a lot of questions. Other than, or in addition to, getting new head counts, look at the security situation in the areas N. of Pak Ou. Those DZ's may have to remain Porter DZ's, or other? But, virtually everything else can switch to 'bous.

So, answer the following questions, please:

21. Item 1 on sheet - GM 12 looks ok, only 2 Km S, of LS-256. About 3/4 of a 'bou drop.
22. Check items 2, 3, 4, & 5 on the list for security & DZ size. Also, check the 105 howitzer position. Who's there (FAR or SGU) & if FAR, who supplies chow.
23. Item #6 on the list, RB 1168, gets enough for 536 troops. Is this head count factual (is any?) or are there refs-deps mixed in? This high quota would be good 'bou drop.
24. #7 and #13 on the list, 17B & TG-1492. These are on the ridge line SE of LP. If you go up, don't tell the local guys at the AB-1 air ops shack. They talk to the ridge by HT-2 & can get the population shifted around before you arrive. The big question is, is that DZ-034, TG-1494 R/U, is also at the same location & receiving VTE C-46 drops. We've been sending one one hell of a lot of rice there; from VTE - 120 X 40KG, 120 X hash, and 144 X Hair, from L-54-350X40Kg and 50X40Kg. I know they're 2 Km apart, but, somehow the used to manage w/o L-54 drops. Anyways, if you can find out how many heads @ either or both places, we'll drop by 'bou.
25. Check #8 on the list. LS-4 is now fed from L-54 by truck. The question is, who were the 120 bags of 40Kg going to from L-54 while we were still dropping 240 rice & 480 hash from VTE?
26. Check item #9, TG-1167 R/F. Same question as 25. On the October-Vientiane DZ list, we carried DZ-0185 as TG-1069, F, and DZ-0220 as TG-1167 T. Both have been cut for November in lieu of truck shipments, but still, who ate the 80 bags of L-54 rice.
27. #10 on the list, TG-1264 W/T. This looks like old DZ-0220 w/ a coordinate change and some more people (Phantoms?).

.....2/-



- ?8. Items #11 & #12 are DZ's 0213 & 0214. Both can be 'bou DZ's but, again, who was eating the L-54 rice in October while we were C-46ing fm VTE. Tony 2 cut DZ-0214 (TH-0116 T) of for November and is trucking. How 'bout the other?
- ?9. Item #14, RB 132983 T. Small quota, keep as porter drop, or drop 20 bags here & the balance at GM-12 (?I).
- ?10. Item ~~15~~ on the list, TH-0423 Y/H. Good 'bou DZ if bad guys aren't across the river & going to zap the plane.

General specs, for 'bou drops are 5,000 lbs ACL, 3 of the new larger pallets each w/ 18 bags of 40Kg, or 54 bags per load. Palletize in SMB warehouse, more down to ramp (regular commercial ramp in front of warehouse, not AB-1 ramp) w/ fork lift, let palletized rice lay on ramp till 'bou comes back, load 3 pallets w/ fork lift for about a 5-minute turnaround. Somebody will undoubtedly bring up the point that you can't tie-up a forklift that long. BS! There's a fork lift in the warehouse that will be used about ~~10~~ minutes per hour or so & a fork lift w/ 'bou~~r~~ is a lot cheaper than C-46 drops fm VTE.

  
Mac

\*\*\*\*\*

LS 256-54 9821

X1	G.M.	12	15-256	S.H.98 19	Yellow/E	44 Bags	OK
2	B.G.	121		TH 1528	Red/ L	60 Bags	phu Sa OK
3	B. G.	124		TH 07 31	Yellow/ N	40 Bags	?
4	B.G.	125		TH 06 30	Yellow/ V	70 Bags	?
5	B.G.	126		Th 13 33	Red/ a	30 Bags	Phu Chommon?
X 6	B.G.K.	131		KB 11 68	White/W 536 tps	322 Bags	O/C
X7	T/B			EG 16 96	Red/ V	350 bags	
- 8	REFUGEES	LS 4		K100 KAOTAI		120 bags	
- 9	REFUGEES	USAND		IG 11 67	Red/ F	80 bags	
X10	-1-			IG 12 64	White/T	50 bags	
X11	-1-	NEW		TH 0114 02-0218	Red/ F	130 bags	Inou Luang Tai
X12	-1-	-1-		TH 116 02-0214	White/T	110 bags	Inou Luang Tai
X13	-1-	-1-		IG 14 02	Red/ V	30 bags	
14	-1-	-1-		TH 13/983	White/ F	20 bags	O/C
15	-1-	COA13		TH 04 23	Yellow/ V	50 bags	O/C
16	COAL	COAL					
17	OK	OK					

62.24 MT

55000

1650 Bags

DZ 03A - TG 1404 14 N.S.P. - 134 On November 71

Lieutenant John Deputy Chief S/4 F.S. / EAST

Kistalan

*[Signature]*

18 NOVEMBER 1971

TO: JACK & MAC

FROM: FCB/L-25

SUBJ: L.P. DROP PROGRAM

It appears as though a Caribou dropping out of L-54 would be considerably cheaper than having C-46s drop to the same DZs from Vte. While drops to all paramilitary elements would continue to be Porter drops, Caribous could drop rice, salt and hash to those sites presently dropped to by C-46s. Although certain paramilitary locations could at this point be dropped to by Bous, the fact that the quotas would constantly change due to troop movements, that two-thirds of the rice dropped to paramilitary is cooked rice, and the "strategic" principle of spreading the monthly quota over the month as opposed to dropping it all at once precludes economical usage of Caribous. More about this later.

The biggest problem surrounding a L-54 Caribou program, aside from limited flexibility in the event that all of the refs located on the DZs would be forced to scatter due to enemy action, is 1) setting it up, and 2) running it. A study will have to be made as to how to best load and deliver the rice. Assuming that there will be three line items--40 kg., salt and hash (total monthly req. ca. 500 bags shipped by truck from Vte.)--each load will have to be assembled in such a way as to meet the requirements of the particular DZ. This would probably preclude palletizing in the SMB warehouse. Rather, a sufficient stock of the three commodities would have to be loaded onto a truck at the west entrance to the whse., delivered to the loading area at the edge of the ramp (or within the whse. compound adjacent to the ramp) and off-loaded onto separate cargo pallets.

Palletizing on the ramp is a possibility. This operation would require two pairs of roller track sections--enuf to accommodate two loads--and a low boom forklift (available) with a 5 ft. long forklift extension (assuming 3 by 7 pallets will be used) equipped with two or three 5 ft. sections of roller track. At least two palletizers (not available) would be required to tie down the rice on the pallets. Commodities would then be loaded onto the pallets according to requirement from supplies located on the cargo pallets, tied down and forklifted to the tail gate of the Bou about 10 yds. away. While this system of palletizing and loading is preferable, you are screwed if the forklift breaks down (it is presently broken) and SMB has only one low-boom forklift. An alternative would be to palletize the rice right in the airplane (a la BHS), thus eliminating the need for roller tracks and a forklift.

What type of pallet is best suited to requirements? While 3 by 7 pallets are probably best in view of the fact that the A/C would have to make only three passes over the DZ, would the smaller pallets be easier to handle (especially if rice were to be palletized in the plane) and would it allow for a greater load in terms of total number of bags per load (6 small pallets

## LP DROP PROGRAM

pallets times 10 bags as opposed to 3 large pallets times 18 bags) in view of the low fuel load required? The cost-effectiveness of the latter method may cancel out any savings when comparative time over the DZ is calculated.

In terms of manpower, coolies, palletizers and a chief honcho would be required. Between ten and fifteen coolies could be acquired locally. The head coolie could be one of the five coolies currently employed down at the rice shack near the AB-1 ramp. At least two palletizers would be required. Again, a couple of the coolies from the rice shack could be trained to tie down the rice. A chief muck-muck would have to be available to orchestrate the operation, which would include determining the schedule, figuring out the ACLs, etc. In addition, it would be good to have a man on the ground at each of the DZs to distribute the dropped rice. I am sure that some of the know-how of AA Traffic could be put to use in setting up the drop operation and seeing it thru the first month or two.

Dan R. will be sending down (or hand-carrying) more detailed info by DZ--numbers, quotas and times. There would be roughly 23 caribou drops per month at about 6 or 7 DZs requiring between three and four caribou work-days per month. If the decision is made to give the Caribou a whirl, it will be necessary to do a lot of planning well in advance.

Support to paramilitary elements was discussed at length with AB-1 and one of Colonels (I have forgotten his name). For a variety of reasons (listed above) it was determined that Caribou drops are not feasible. The L-54 method by which food is delivered to troops in the field is a rather unique one. Commodities are issued on request to the military directly from the SMB Warehouse. An X-number of bags of 40 kg. and cases of canned meat are issued to Lt. Manh (air ops), and an X-number of bags of 100 kg. are issued to the chief army cook who cooks the rice, places 70 kg of the cooked rice, along with a few weeds, in a cardboard box to be dropped to positions by chute. About two-thirds of the rice dropped to the troops is cooked rice delivered by the AB-1 Porter. The balance of the rice delivered by air to troops is 40 kg dropped exclusively by out Porter. The canned meat is delivered by an large by AB-1 A/C. Generally, a chute is rigged to five cases of meat and one chute is dropped along w/ammo. Max capacity for a Porter dropping meat only is 15 cases. For all intents and purposes, the army handles troop quotas and deliveries to paramilitary positions.

Beginning next month, each trooper will be issued 5 cans of meat/mo. It is likely that the rice quota per soldier averages out to less than 24 kg/mo. Dan R. will calculate the average based on deliveries and the total troops being fed during Oct. Due to the current pattern of movement of troops from position to position it is virtually impossible to determine a monthly quota for each paramilitary DZ. Therefore, either some sort of an average quota per DZ will have to be arrived at, or Dan R. will have to monitor the situation closely and react on a day-by-day basis. In any case, close tabs will have to be kept on the situation.

18/11/71  
LP DROP PROGRAM

As far as support to dependents is concerned, rice is issued directly to the military on request from the S B Whse. It would probably be a good idea if we could get distribution to dependents back into our hands. Perhaps a system similar to that which Barney C. designed for distribution to 20A dependents would be a possibility.

Concerning Mac's question regarding overages due to Porter drops out of LP to C-46 DZs, they will hopefully be subtracted from this month's quota.

FCB/fcb  
18/11/71

To: John W. MacQueen, AD/RA

From: F.C. Benson, ORA/LP

Subj: 1) A preliminary report on the Lao Theung situated between Luang Prabang and Muong Kassy; 2) An area survey of Thong Khang (LS-355)

Date: 31 March 1972

### Lao Theung

With the exception of Lao Theung and Meo situated in the immediate area of Kiokacham (LS-4) and Phou Chia (LS-25), the majority of the Lao Theung population in Tassengs Chomkham (TG-1754) and Ban Long (TG-0366), Muong Xieng Ngeun, remained in place when enemy forces captured friendly positions at Phou Khoun, Kiokacham, and Phou Chia. When company-sized enemy units moved into the areas west of Route 13 villagers in the area moved into the surrounding forest and remained there until liberated by BG-131 and BG-122 in late February and early March.

During the period between 20 February and 5 March, two companies of BG-131 moved out of Thong Khang (LS-355) to the Pha Ngam area precipitating the withdrawal of enemy forces and enabling villagers from Tasseng Chomkham to flee to safe areas near Thong Khang (LS-355). To date, a total of 238 families, 1299 people from the following villages in Tasseng Chomkham are located at LS-355:

- 1) Houei Pa Ine – 17/97
- 2) Nam Kat – 10/75
- 3) San Kang – 23/118
- 4) Tang Lom – 56/227
- 5) Hin Pone – 14/70
- 6) Houei Cha Can – 19/74
- 7) Pha Koub – 15/162
- 8) Pha Lam – 12/60
- 9) Muong Pong Kao – 12/54
- 10) San Kang – 5/33
- 11) Nam Yao – 9/47
- 12) Tham Loub – 8/41
- 13) Gay Thong T – 14/77
- 14) Ome Pong – 7/37
- 15) Nam Tao – 7/27

Villages #1 to #11 listed above arrived at LS-355 between 27 February and 2 March. Villages #12 to #15 arrived on 22 March. An additional 54 families, 24 from Pha Keng (TG-2955 area) and 30 Meo from Pha Ngam are presently situated at Ban Na Leng (SG-9467) and Phou Chia (LS-25), respectively.

Military sources at LS-355 reported that villagers from the following villages in Tasseng Chomkham were captured by the enemy on 17 March:



- 1) Ban Pak Sanan (TG-0169)
- 2) Houei Sanan (TG-0070)
- 3) Houei Tao

Capture was achieved through coercion. The assistant Tasseng Chom Kham, the naiban of Houei Ching (?) and a villager of Houei Satang Noi were executed before the eyes of villagers gathered together in several areas. Prior to the execution, villagers were given the option of going to “liberated” areas in Xieng Khouang or returning to “enemy” (i.e. RLG) controlled territories. Upon viewing the murder of several individuals who opted to go with the “enemy,” certain villagers decided that Xieng Khouang would be a healthy place to live.

On 25 March some 316 Lao Theung refugees from the Kiokacham area (Tasseng Ban Long) arrived at Kio Nya. Of a total of nearly twenty villages in Tasseng Ban Long nearly all villages were captured with the exception of four:

- 1) Ban Sen Sy (TG-1169)
- 2) Ban Long Nam Ming Noi (TG-0570)
- 3) Ban Houei Hou Yai (TG-1266)
- 4) Ban Houei Sophat (TG-1067)

In mid-March, BG-122 launched an operation to retake Kiokacham and the surrounding area. As friendly troops moved forward, enemy units forced villagers from fourteen villages situation west-southwest of Kiokacham to the Phasanine (TG-2070) area on about 16 March. A total of more than 300 families were “persuaded” to move by the enemy who utilized coercive tactics similar to the ones employed against villagers in the area described above. The villages captured include:

- 1) Ban Long (TG-0367)
- 2) Houei Hou Noi
- 3) Houei Hou Yai
- 4) Nam Xang
- 5) Ban Paksanan
- 6) Ban Nam Sanan
- 7) Houei Nouan (TG-0267)
- 8) Phou Tat
- 9) Ban Yai
- 10) Keo Muong
- 11) San Kang Noi
- 12) San Kang Yai
- 13) Keng Ling
- 14) Houei Sopat



### Thong Khang (LS-355)

Thong Khang is the headquarters of BG-131 and the relocation point for nearly 2000 Lao Theung refugees from the Phou Chia (LS-25) area. Security in the area is relatively good, although small bands of PL have been reported to the north-northwest.

BG-131 is comprised of Phong Saly Lao Theung and Lao Theung from the greater LS-355 area. Prior to 1968 most of the LS-355 area was under enemy control. In late 1968 troops under Siang Man Noi succeeded in moving into the area and established a defense perimeter southwest of Luang Prabang. Since that time there has been only sporadic contact with the enemy. Thong Khang was lost to the enemy last September but was quickly recaptured.

At the present time the enemy, numbering no more than about 100 soldiers, more or less control some eight villages. On 24 February some 230 Lao Theung and Meo from borderline villages about 10-15 kilometers to the northwest—Ban Long Luat, Houei Liang, and Houa Houei Kacham—were “abducted” by the enemy and taken to the Pavie area via Suan Luang (TG-0692). Many of the villagers taken away were PL dependents. One group of villagers changed their mind about moving and made contact with BG-131 requesting assistance in escaping. However, by the time friendly units arrived on the scene the villagers had been taken away.

BG-131’s area of responsibility lies roughly between LS-355 and Xieng Ngeun, outposts being situation on ridges on both sides of the Xieng Ngeun – Muong Nane road. Patrols also cover the area between LS-355 and Phou Chia (LS-25).

Dependents of BG-131 soldiers recruited locally are situated in nearly thirty villages in the greater LS-355 area:

- 1) Ban Dane (RB-1466)
- 2) Houei Hoi (RB-1464)
- 3) Din Pha (SG-89610)
- 4) Houei Wot (SG-8866)
- 5) Tham Quat (SG-8959)
- 6) Nong Kuai (SG-9383)
- 7) Houei Peng (SG-9684)
- 8) Houei Kom (SG-9988)
- 9) Houei Thao (TG-0289)
- 10) Houei Mai (SG-8854)
- 11) Sen Si (SG-8749)
- 12) Tha Li (RB-0663)
- 13) ?? (QB-9768)
- 14) Ban Nong Koy – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 15) Houei Hut – Tasseng Muong Nane

- 16) Phou Xot – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 17) Houei Hia – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 18) Bouam Po – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 19) Houei He – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 20) Kok Nio – Tasseng Pak Mawn
- 21) Ta Pan – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 22) Om Mawn – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 23) Om Chua – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 24) Paw Muong – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 25) Houei Lieu – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 26) Phou Laao – Tasseng Muong Nane
- 27) Houei Phou – Tasseng Muong Nane

At the present time the military at LS-355 is in the process of compiling a more complete list of dependents of locally recruited soldiers situated in outlying areas. Once the list is compiled it will be possible to determine how these dependents, totally about 100 families, can be best supported.

to: CONNICK

Fm: BENSON

SUBJ: HONGSA ~~SET~~

MAR 7 1972

MAY 1973

~~REF:~~

IN REFERENCE TO A REQUEST

FROM THE CHAO MUONG OF HONGSA  
to the CHAO KHOUENG OF SAYABOURY  
~~REQUIRE~~ FOR USAID ASSISTANCE  
IN SHIPPING SALT BY AIR TO HONGSA  
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS  
BEEN OBTAINED:

PRIOR TO ENEMY INTERDICTION OF  
THE MEKONG RIVER THE PRIMARY  
SOURCE OF SALT FOR HONGSA WAS  
BAN HOUET SAI. AT THE PRESENT TIME  
SOURCES ARE LIMITED TO OVERLAND  
ROUTES FROM THAILAND AND SAYABOURY  
THAI CUSTOMS HAS PLACED QUOTAS  
ON THE AMOUNT SALT ~~ALLOWED TO~~  
~~LEAVE THE~~ DESTINED FOR HONGSA DUE  
TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT MIGHT  
FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, AND SALT  
PURCHASED IN SAYABOURY FOR 400 KIP  
PER BAG <sup>(10 KG)</sup> IS RESOLD ~~IN HONGSA~~ BY  
MERCHANTS IN HONGSA FOR 1700  
KIP PER BAG. HENCE, DUE TO  
THE FACT THAT <sup>THE</sup> DEMAND <sup>FOR SALT</sup> OUTSTRIPS

(2)

RESULTING IN ~~A~~ HIGH PRICES,  
SUPPLY ~~AND THAT THE PRICE OF~~  
~~SALT IS EXTREMELY HIGH,~~  
A REQUEST ~~THE~~ FOR ASSISTANCE HAS  
BEEN FORWARDED. TO USAID.

~~THE~~ <sup>SALT</sup> TOTAL ANNUAL REQUIREMENT  
~~FOR HONGSA IS~~ 13 MT. OF.

IF USAID AGREES TO SHIP SALT BY  
AIR TO HONGSA FROM SAYABOUKY,  
A PURCHASING AGENT WOULD BE ASSIGNED  
BY THE CHAO MUONG OF HONGSA TO  
~~COLLECT MONEY TO~~ BUT SALT IN  
SAYABOUKY AND STORE IT UNTIL  
SUCH TIME AS TRANSPORTATION  
IS

FAR choppers 70,000 - 80,000 kip/trip  
fm L-23  
Muang office  
airship

## Hongsa salt

17 Mun Unit

- 1) Previously by barge fm L-25
- 2) Market - 400 kg 10 kg bag L-25  
1700 Kip " " LS-62

en route  
L-25  
4 carbon  
loads fm  
L-23

13 MT / year Required

- 3) P.C. sell sweaters / shirts but no  
other hard / soft ware or edible
- 4) No movement boats on river
- 5) Thailand limits 2-5 Bag / person salt  
- afraid will fall in hands en.
- 6) Rice 1200 kip Kalong

will buy in Saly  
only request + transp.

request Kerosene 1200 Tins (180)

FD  
moral factor

talk to C. Khoneng  
C. Mueng

To: John MacQueen

From: F.C. Benson

Subj: The Kiokacham (LS-4) Area

Date: 15 April 1972

On 20 January positions east of Sala Phou Khoun (LS-260) were lost to enemy forces. By 21 January the enemy overran friendly positions at Phou Khoun and units began moving north along Route 13. As of 23 January two mixed companies of PL/NVA had reached the Kiotaleu area (TG-2857) and refugees from that location (LS-170 Meo?) and Pha Keng (TG-2957) broke to the west along the Nam Ming river in an attempt to escape. By this time virtually all of the Xieng Khouang refugees at Kiokacham had left prematurely.

On 31 January at 1740 hours an unknown sized enemy unit attacked CV-171 and CV-172 positions located at TG-1764 and TG-1264. At approximately 1800 hours BV-17 and Kiokacham was shelled by 200 rounds of DK-82, 82 mm. mortars and 122 mm. rocket fire. As the barrage lifted BV-17 able-bodied troops bolted from their positions, broke through the enemy and moved north along Route 13 until they reached CV-174 position at TG-0672 along the Nam Ming river. Later reports indicate one PL/NVA battalion was used.

On 1 February two companies of BI-15 moved south from Luang Prabang to reinforce BV-17 in the vicinity of the Nam Ming river, and the BV-17 commander, Col. Ounheuan, was relieved of his command in view of his "half-hearted" attempt to hold Kiokacham. Also on 1 February an unknown-sized enemy force fired into the village of Nam Ming (TG-0673) burning it to the ground. No casualties were reported.

On 3 February at 1730 hours CV-172 clashed with approximately fifty enemy at TG-0771. During the period between 7 February and 14 March only light contacts and enemy sightings were reported in the Kiokacham area.

On 14 March an operation was launched to retake Kiokacham and clear Route 13. One irregular battalion, BG-122, started from Phou Chia (LS-25) and moved northeast while BI-15, two commando companies, and BG-131 (based at Thong Khang, LS-355) moved south along Route 13.

On 16 March at 1400 hours friendly forces reached and occupied Kiokacham without encountering any significant enemy resistance.

Following the loss of Phou Khoun and Kiokacham enemy units occupied villages located in the vicinity of the Nam Ming valley and remained until friendly units began their advance on 14 March. Most of the villagers took to the hills during this period.

to: J.W. MacP  
from: F.C. Benson  
Subj: Tasseng Chomkham & Tasseng Ban Long

22 April 1972

, many many people,

TASSENG CHOMKHAM AND TASSENG BAN LONG ARE SITUATED IN THE AREA WEST OF PHOU KHOUN IN THE PHA NGAM HIGHLANDS AND WEST/NORTHWEST OF KIOCACHAM ALONG THE NAM MING RIVER VALLEY. THIS REGION, WHICH HAS LONG SERVED AS A SORT OF BUFFER ZONE BETWEEN MILITARY REGIONS ONE, TWO AND FIVE, WAS INHABITED BY NEARLY 5,000 PEOPLE, MOSTLY LAO THEUNG WITH A SPRINKLING OF MEO, LOCATED IN NEARLY 45 VILLAGES. FOLLOWING THE FALL OF SALA PHOU KHOUN ON 21 JANUARY 1972, ENEMY UNITS MOVED WEST INTO THE PHA NGAM AREA AND THENCE NORTHWARD INTO THE NAM MING VALLEY OCCUPYING MANY OF THE VILLAGES IN THE AREA. ~~1~~

LATE  
BY ~~21~~ JANUARY ~~THE ENEMY HAD MOVED AS FAR NORTH AS~~ AS  
KIOCACHAM AND AT 1800 HOURS ON THE 31st SHELLED BV17 POSITIONS AT  
KIOCACHAM WITH 200 ROUNDS OF DK82, 82 mm. MORTAR AND 122 mm. ROCKET FIRE  
CAUSING FRIENDLY UNITS TO WITHDRAW NORTH ALONG ROUTE 13 TO TG6672 ALONG  
THE NAM MING RIVER. DURING THE INTERVAL BETWEEN THE LOSS OF KIOCACHAM  
AND ~~14~~ 14 MARCH ONLY LIGHT CONTACTS AND ENEMY SIGHTINGS WERE REPORTED.

DURING THIS PERIOD THE ENEMY WAS CONSOLIDAT<sup>ed</sup>~~ING~~ HIS POSITION IN THE VILLAGES.  
THE MAJORITY OF THE VILLAGERS IN TASSENGS CHOMKHAM AND BAN LONG WERE CAUGHT  
UNAWARES BY THE ENEMY BEFORE THEY HAD TIME TO LEAVE THEIR RESPECTIVE VILLAGES.  
UPON ENTERING THE VILLAGES, THE ENEMY (REPORTEDLY ACCOMPANIED BY WOMEN SOLDIERS  
PACKING PISTOLS) DEMANDED DONATIONS OF RICE, ~~THE~~ PRESENTED THE STANDARD  
PROPAGANDA ~~pitch~~ <sup>pitch</sup>, AND PROHIBITED THE POPULATION FROM LEAVING ~~THE~~ THEIR  
VILLAGES. MOST OF THOSE WHO HAD MANAGED TO FLEE INTO THE FOREST WERE TRACKED  
DOWN, AND ~~RETURNED TO THEIR VILLAGES.~~



*In mid February, BG 131 units moved out of Thong Khang  
(15355) westward into the Pha Ngam area, liberating  
some 1200 people who in turn moved to Thong Khang.*

ON 14 MARCH AN OPERATION WAS LAUNCHED TO RETAKE KIOCACHAM AND CLEAR ROUTE 13.

ONE IRREGULAR BATTALION, BG ~~131~~ <sup>131</sup> 2 STARTED FROM PHOU CHIA AND MOVED NORTHEAST *to the Pha Ngam area*

WHILE BI 15, 2 COMMANDO COMPANIES AND <sup>elements of</sup> BG 122 MOVED SOUTH ALONG ROUTE 13.

ON 16 MARCH AT 1400 HOURS FRIENDLY FORCES REACHED AND OCCUPIED KIOCACHAM

WITHOUT ENCOUNTERING SIGNIFICANT ENEMY RESISTANCE. *Consequently BG 131*  
*moved eastward from Thong Khang into the Pha Ngam area.*

*Shortly after BG 131 launched its operation.*

JUST PRIOR TO THE LAUNCHING OF THE OPERATION, THE ENEMY PRESENTED THE VILLAGERS

WITH THE OPTION <sup>of</sup> RETURNING TO RLG CONTROLLED AREAS OR MOVING TO LIBERATED

AREAS IN XIENG KHOUANG. THE ASSISTANT TASSENG OF CHOMKHAM OPTED NOT TO

GO WITH THE ENEMY. AT THIS POINT THE ENEMY LOPPED OFF ONE OF THE ASSISTANT

TASSENG'S EARS WITH A KNIFE, AND ~~HIM~~ <sup>HIM</sup> BEAT ~~HIM~~ TO DEATH ~~BEFORE THE EYES OF~~

THE VILLAGERS OF HOUEI SANG. OTHERS WHO REFUSED TO LEAVE WITH THE ENEMY,

THE NAIBAN OF HOUEI CHING UNNJ AND A VILLAGER OF HOUEI STANG NOI, WERE ALSO

ASSASSINATED. THE TASSENG OF BAN LONG WAS SHOT IN THE LEG BY THE ENEMY

AND THEN CARRIED AWAY ON A LITTER. ~~FOUR~~ <sup>FOUR</sup> ~~XXXX~~ FORMER VILLAGE SOLDIERS WHO

WERE THREATENED BY ASSASSINATION OFFERED THE ENEMY 10,000 KIP APIECE IN

EXCHANGE FOR THEIR LIVES. THE ENEMY TOOK THE MONEY AND THEN SHOT THE FOUR

MEN.

*2. The main hold in the area was threatened*  
FROM THE TIME ~~OF THEIR OCCUPATION OF THE AREA~~ UNTIL THE 14 MARCH OPERATION

IT APPEARS AS THOUGH THE ENEMY MADE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO ~~MOVE~~ FORCIBLY

EVACUATE THE INHABITANTS OF THE AREA TO ENEMY CONTROLLED AREAS.

OUT OF A TOTAL OF 16 VILLAGES IN TASSENG BAN LONG, 13 WERE CAPTURED:

BAN LONG  
HOUEI HOU YAI  
HOUEI HOU NOI  
NAM SANAN  
HOUEI SANG

KEO MUONG  
NAM MOK  
SAN KANG  
NAM PHUN  
HOUE NOUAN  
NAM HAP  
NAM NYOU

Those TASSENG BAN LONG VILLAGERS WHO MANAGED TO ESCAPE ARE PRESENTLY LOCATED  
ALONG THE XIENG NGEUN-MUONG NANE ROAD, AND INCLUDE PEOPLE FROM BAN SENE SY,  
BAN NAM MING NOI, AND A FEW PEOPLE FROM HOUEI SAPOT AND HOUEI HOU.

#### VILLAGES

THOSE CAPTURED IN TASSENG ~~MMH~~ CHOMKHAM INCLUDE:

NAM SANG  
PAKCANAN  
PHOU TAT  
BAN YAI  
KENG LING  
NAM KAT  
NAM TAO  
NAM PAW  
SAI TONG NEUA  
PHA KENG

MOST OF THE TASSENG CHOMKHAM VILLAGERS LIBERATED BY BG 131 <sup>advancing</sup> ARE NOW LOCATED AT  
THONG KHANG (LS 355) <sup>Pha Nam</sup> AND INCLUDE PEOPLE FROM: <sup>Pha Van</sup> <sup>troops and</sup>

HOUEI PA INE  
NAM KAT  
SAN KANG  
TANG LOM  
HIN PONE  
HOUEI CHA CAN  
PHA KOUB  
PHA LAM  
MUONG PONG KAO  
NAM YAO  
THAM LOUB  
GAY THONG T  
OME PONG  
NAM TAO

~~NEXT~~ THOSE CAPTURED WERE ESCORTED IN GROUPS BY ARMED PL SOLDIERS. MEO REFUGEES

WHO RECENTLY ~~ESCAPED~~ ESCAPED FROM ENEMY\*HELD PHASANINE (TG2070) REPORTED  
THAT MANY OF THE CAPTURED VILLAGERS <sup>were</sup> ~~WERE~~ LOCATED IN THAT AREA, AND <sup>were</sup> ~~ARE~~ IN  
THE PROCESS OF BEING ESCORTED IN SMALL GROUPS EAST ALONG THE NAM KHAN RIVER.  
ALL TOLD, AS MANY AS ~~XXXX~~ 3,500 PEOPLE <sup>may have been</sup> ~~WAS~~ CAPTURED. THOSE WHO MANAGED  
TO ESCAPE CAME MOSTLY FROM THE PHA NGAM AREA AND TOTAL <sup>about</sup> ~~SOME 1,300~~  
1,300 <sup>people.</sup> ~~THE~~ <sup>including</sup> ~~INCLUDES~~ MEO FROM THE VILLAGES OF PHA NGAM AND PHOU VAI. ABOUT  
~~NARLE~~ HALF OF THE LATTER GROUP HAVE GONE TO PHOU NGIEU (LS258). THE BALANCE  
OF ABOUT 120 PERSONS ARE LOCATED AT THONG KHANG AND KIO NYA.



Mr. John W. MacQueen, AD/RA

April 24, 1972


F. C. Benson, ORA/LP

Opium Production in Muong Sai Area

According to a recent escapee from the Muong Sai (L-27) area, opium production is still permitted by the NLHX administration. Opium grown by Meo and Lao Theung tribesmen in the area is usually brought by the grower to the Oudomxay Provincial Cooperative store in Muong Sai and traded for commodities, usually of Chinese manufacture. Certain items, such as shoes, can be purchased only with opium. Opium thus obtained is sent by the Coop to China where it is exchanged for goods. The monetary value of opium in the Muong Sai area is placed at 7,000 kip for one pong (2.6 pong equals one kilogram).

In spite of the permissive attitude, if not latent encouragement, by the NLHX administration toward opium production, its usage by the local population is strictly controlled. All those people below the age of 45 caught using opium are thrown into jail. Those over the age of 45 may use opium as they are considered to be of old age and of little use to society.

Clearance:

AC/LP:AJCauterucci 



22 April 1972

TO: John W. MacQueen, AD/RA

From: F.C. Benson, ORA/LP

Subject: Opium Production in Muong Sai area

According to a recent escapee from the Muong Sai (L-27) area, opium production is still permitted by the NLHX administration. Opium grown by Meo and Lao Theung tribesmen in the area is usually brought by the grower to the Oudomxay Provincial Cooperative store in Muong Sai and traded for commodities, usually of Chinese manufacture. Certain items, such as shoes, can be purchased only ~~by~~ with opium. Opium thus obtained is sent by the Coop to China where it is exchanged for goods. The <sup>monetary</sup> value of opium in the Muong Sai area is placed at 7,000 kip for one pong (2.6 pong equals one kilogram).

In spite of the permissive attitude, if not latent encouragement, by the NLHX administration toward opium production, its usage by the local ~~Meo~~ population is strictly <sup>controlled</sup> ~~restricted~~. All those ~~roughhousing~~ <sup>people</sup> below the age of 45 caught using opium are thrown into jail. Those over the age of 45 may use opium as they are considered to be of old age and of little use to society.

According to the escapee, a minor government official captured by the enemy last year in the Pak Ou area, the Chinese <sup>presence</sup> ~~role~~ in the Muong Sai area is generally beneficial to the local population in that ~~they~~ <sup>it</sup> provides a source of consumer goods ~~and~~ and services, and cited as a parallel example the USAID effort in Laos. The Chinese, mostly from the Sip Song Panna area, generally keep themselves strictly segregated from the local population.

Due ~~the~~ to the <sup>heavy</sup> ~~amount~~ rice tax imposed on the population by the NLHX, there is a shortage of rice. To this extent the population is encouraged to diversify their crops. Mang Dang ( ), Maak Pheuk ( ), Man Done ( ) and other crops are grown as supplementary foodstuffs. <sup>There is no double cropping of paddy rice. Benyoin is also produced in quantity and exported to China.</sup>

Most of the population remaining in the Muong Sai area live in small houses scattered about in rice fields, etc. ~~to prevent~~ to avoid providing a target for air strikes. The Lao Theung and Meo population in the area are the dominant groups in all aspects of the local administration.

*The escapee had no...*



Mr. John W. MacQueen, AD/RA

April 24, 1972

F. C. Benson, ORA/LP

### Tasseng Chomkham and Tasseng Ban Long

Tasseng Chomkham and Tasseng Ban Long, Muong Xieng Ngeun, are situated in the area west of Phou Khoun in the Pha Ngam highlands and west/northwest of Kiou Kacham along the Nam Ming River valley. This region, which has long served as a sort of buffer zone between Military Regions I, II, and V, was inhabited by nearly 5,000 people, mostly Lao Theung with a sprinkling of Meo, located in nearly 45 villages. Following the fall of Sala Phou Khoun on 21 January 1972, enemy units moved west into the Pha Ngam area and thence northward into the Nam Ming valley, occupying many of the villages in the area. By late January the enemy had moved as far north as Kiou Kacham, and at 1800 hours on the 31st shelled BV17 positions at Kiou Kacham with 200 rounds of DK82, 82mm mortar and 122mm rocket fire, causing friendly units to withdraw north along Route 13 to TG0672 along the Nam Ming River. During the interval between the loss of Kiou Kacham and 14 March, only light contacts and enemy sightings were reported.

During this period the enemy consolidated his position in the villages. The majority of the villagers in Tassengs Chomkham and Ban Long were caught unawares by the enemy before they had time to leave their respective villages. Upon entering the villages, the enemy (reportedly accompanied by women soldiers packing pistols) demanded donations of rice, presented the standard propaganda pitch, and prohibited the population from leaving their villages. Most of those who had managed to flee into the forest were tracked down.

On 14 March an operation was launched to retake Kiou Kacham and clear Route 13. One irregular battalion, BG 131, started from Phou Chia and moved northeast to the Pha Ngam area, while BI 15, two Commando companies and elements of BG 122 moved south along Route 13. On 16 March at 1400 hours, friendly forces reached and occupied Kiou Kacham without encountering significant enemy resistance.

Just prior to the launching of the operation, the enemy presented the villagers with the option of returning to RLG-controlled areas or moving to liberated areas in Xieng Khouang. The Assistant Tasseng of Chomkham

opted not to go with the enemy. At this point the enemy lopped off one of the Assistant Tasseng's ears with a knife and beat him to death. Others who refused to leave with the enemy--the Naiban of Houei Ching UNNJ and a villager of Houei Stang Nor--were also assassinated. The Tasseng of Ban Long was shot in the leg by the enemy and then carried away on a litter.

From the time that their hold on the area was threatened until the 14 March operation, it appears as though the enemy made a special effort to forcibly evacuate the inhabitants of the area to enemy-controlled areas. Out of a total of 16 villages in Tasseng Ban Long, 13 were captured:

- Ban Long
- Houei Hou Yai
- Houei Hou Noi
- Nam Sanan
- Houei Sang
- Houei Sapot Yai
- Keo Muong
- Nam Mok
- San Kang
- Nam Phun
- Houei Nouan
- Nam Hap
- Nam Nyou

Those Tasseng Ban Long villagers who managed to escape are presently located along the Xieng Ngeun-Muong Nane road and include people from Ban Sene Sy, Ban Nam Ming Noi, and a few people from Houei Sapot and Houei Hou.

Those villages captured in Tasseng Chomkham include:

- Nam Sang
- Pakcanan
- Phou Tat
- Ban Yai
- Keng Ling
- Nam Kat
- Nam Tao
- Nam Paw
- Sai Tong Neua
- Pha Keng



Most of the Tasseng Chomkham villagers liberated by advancing BG131 troops are now located at Thong Khang (LS-355) and include people from:

Pha Ngam  
Phou Vai  
Houei Pa Ine  
Nam Kat  
San Kang  
Tang Lom  
Hin Pone  
Houei Cha Can  
Pha Koub  
Pha Lam  
Muong Pong Kao  
Nam Yao  
Tham Loub  
Gay Thong T  
Ome Pong  
Nam Tao

Those captured were escorted in groups by armed PL soldiers. Meo refugees who recently escaped from enemy-held Phasanine (TG2070) reported that many of the captured villagers were located in that area, and were in the process of being escorted in small groups east along the Nam Khan River. All told, as many as 3,500 people may have been captured. Those who managed to escape came mostly from the Pha Ngam area and total about 1,300 people, including Meo from the villages of Pha Ngam and Phou Vai. About half of the latter group have gone to Phou Ngieu (LS-258). The balance of about 120 persons are located at Thong Khang and Kio Nya.

Clearance:

AC/LP:AJCauterucci \_\_\_\_\_

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA

27 APRIL 1972

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: REFUGEE SITREP

A. Pak Ou, Pak Xuang, Phou Dam

DURING THE NIGHT OF 22 APRIL THE GM 11 COMMAND POST AT TH1618 AND TWO BG 122 POSITIONS AT TH2222 AND TH2122 WERE LOST TO ATTACKING ENEMY FORCES. THE GM 11 POSITION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RECAPTURED DURING THE AFTER-NOON OF THE 23rd. FIFTEEN BODIES OF FRIENDLY KIA WERE FOUND ON THE POSITION. THIS ACTION, COUPLED WITH THE LOSS OF PHOU DAM (LS256) ON THE SAME NIGHT, PRECIPITATED THE MOVEMENT OF GROUPS OF REFUGEES LOCATED BETWEEN PAKXUANG (TH1310) AND LATHAN (TH0024), PHOU DAM REFUGEES AND REFUGEES LOCATED UPSTREAM~~XXXXXX~~ FROM PAKXUANG ALONG THE NAM XUANG. ASIDE FROM PHOU DAM, NO POPULATED SETTLEMENTS WERE ATTACKED. PHOU DAM SUFFERED SEVERAL CIVILLIAN KIA. REFUGEE MOVEMENTS WERE BY AND LARGE DUE TO ANTICIPATION BY THE POPULATION OF A DETERIORATING SITUATION. MOST OF THE POPULATION WHO MOVED MOVED DURING THE DAY OF THE 23rd.

NOT  
THUS FAR IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WHO MOVED, MANY HAVING MOVED IN WITH RELATIVES LIVING IN LUANG PRABANG. IT APPEARS, HOWEVER, THAT GROUPS OF PEOPLE STILL REMAIN IN ALL VILLAGES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PHOU DAM, VILLAGES ALONG THE NAM XUANG AND ONE OR TWO VILLAGES LOCATED ON THE BANKS OF THE MEKONG. VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS GENERAL AREA WERE RECEIVING REFUGEE SUPPORT PRIOR TO THE ATTACKS. AT THE PRESENT TIME, THE ONLY VISIBLE GROUPS OF REFUGEES ARE SITUATED ON THE RIVER BANK AT HOUET KO (TH0818), PAKXUANG, BAN DANE (TH1108), AND MUONG KHAM (TH0506).

DECLASS 27 April 1974



REFUGEES AT HOUEI KO INCLUDE PEOPLE FROM:

PAK OU  
BAN MUONG (TH0819)  
HOUEI YO (TH0622)  
LATHAN  
PHOU NONG KHOUAY (RE: 21 APRIL REF REPORT)

AT BAN DANE ARE REFUGEES FROM: (250 people)

HOUEI YO  
HOUEI SOUNG (VIC HOUEI YO)  
HOUEI ANG ( " " " )  
PHOU KONG KHOUAY

REFUGEES AT MUONG KHAM INCLUDE: (200 people)

~~MEMIXMAT~~  
HAT MAT (TH1319)  
PHOU PAU HAU (PAK OU AREA)

REFUGEES AT PAKXUANG INCLUDE: (500 people)

PHONE NGAM (TH1309)  
BAN THIN (TH1310)  
PAK PA (TH1509)  
BAN SIEO (TH1510)  
BAN LUANG (TH1312)  
PHONE SAVANG (TH1512)  
BAN PIA (TH1715)  
BAN LUM (TH1314)  
KHI LUANG

THE PHOU DAM REFUGEES MOVED TO PHOU LUANG NEUA (TH 0116). AS COMMANDO UNITS MOVED BACK INTO PHOU DAM A DAY OR SO AGO, THE SOME 600 PHOU DAM REFUGEES MAY SOON BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME.

ALL TOLD, AS MANY AS 4,000 PEOPLE MAY HAVE MOVED FROM VILLAGES ALONG THE MEKONG AND NAM XUANG DUE TO THE RECENT FIGHTING. THE TOTAL POPULATION OF THE AREA IS NEARLY 8,000.

WITH A STABILIZATION IN THE MILITARY SITUATION IN THE PAK OU AREA, IT IS LIKELY THAT REFUGEES WILL BE RETURNING HOME (ESPECIALLY THOSE LOCATED



ON THE RIVER BANK). ALL REFUGEES WHO DID NOT GO TO LUANG PRABANG HAVE BEEN ORDERED BY THE CHAO KHOUENG (26 APRIL) TO REMAIN IN PLACE AND RETURN HOME WHEN POSSIBLE.

ALL OF THE REFUGEES APPEAR TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH AND ARE NOT LACKING IN NOURISHMENT. MEDICS LOCATED AT HOUAI KO AND PAKXUANG WERE RESUPPLIED ON 26 APRIL.

#### B. KIO NYA

KIO NYA REFUGEES BEGAN LEAVING IN SMALL GROUPS ON OR ABOUT 20 APRIL AFTER XIENG NGEUN WAS ROCKETED ON THE 18th. THE MASS EXODUS, HOWEVER, DID NOT BEGIN UNTIL THE 25th. BY EARLY AFTERNOON ON THE 26th, AN ESTIMATED 75 PER CENT OF THE XIENG KHOUANG REFUGEE POPULATION HAD LEFT. OUT OF A TOTAL ESTIMATED POPULATION OF 6,000, ROUGHLY 4,000 ARE XIENG KHOUANG MEO. (<sup>Accurate</sup> A LIST OF XIENG KHOUANG MEO DOES NOT EXIST) THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO BELONG TO THREE TASSENGS IN MUONG VIENG <sup>LA</sup> SA: TASSENG PHU FA, TASSENG PHOU SE AND TASSENG PHOU DOK. OUT OF A TOTAL OF 18 VILLAGES, ALL BUT FIVE TASSENG PHOU FA VILLAGES HAVE LEFT. ONLY FOUR OF THE 13 TASSENG PHOU SE VILLAGES ARE STILL AT KIO NYA. ONLY ONE TASSENG PHOU DOK VILLAGE REMAINS AT KIO NYA.

MOST OF THE REFUGEES MOVING ARE FOLLOWING THE MIENG NGEUN-MUONG NANE ROAD EN ROUTE TO PHOU CHIA (LS25). FORWARD ELEMENTS OF THE REFUGEES WAS TRACED TO BAN DANE (VIC SG8662). ~~XXXX~~ AN ESTIMATED 100 PEOPLE HAD ARRIVED AT HOUAI BATEP (SG8970), OF WHICH 50 WERE EN ROUTE TO BAN DANE.

ACCORDING TO MAJOR VANG XANG, MR II LIAISON IN LUANG PRABANG, SOME 1,060



*waiting for an airplane ride to Ban Xon.*  
MEO ARE CAMPED OUT IN LUANG PRABANG. THESE PEOPLE BELONG MOSTLY TO THE  
TASSENG PHOU FA GROUP, THE GROUP WHICH IS ASSOCIATED WITH COL. TU LONG. *(many are depts.)*  
VANG XANG IS RATHER DISTURBED BY THE FACT THAT MOST OF THE PEOPLE MOVING  
TO LUANG PRABANG ARE ACTING CONTRARY TO V.P.s ORDER THAT ALL BUT THE YOUNG,  
OLD AND SICK SHOULD WALK, AND IS ATTEMPTING TO STEM THE FLOW OF MEO INTO  
THE CITY. THE PROBLEM IS COMPOUNDED BY THE FACT THAT *Refuge leaders* ~~MAJ.~~ *CAPT.* SAO YAO YANG,  
NAIKONG TENG SHONG AND ALL THREE TASSENGS DEPARTED FOR BAN XON BEFORE THE  
REFUGEE MOVE GOT UNDER WAY.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT A CERTAIN NUMBER OF XIENG KHOUANG MEO WILL REMAIN AT  
KIO NYA. THIS NUMBER WILL BE FIXED AS SOON AS THE MOVE ~~XXXXXX~~ OUT OF  
KIO NYA SLOWS DOWN DURING THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

#### C. PHA THEUNG AREA

ON ABOUT THE 17th APRIL BG123 SOLDIERS (FORMERLY AT PHOU DAM) RESECURED THE  
OLD 17B POSITION ON PHA THEUNG (TG1696) *with little difficulty, in spite of repeated attempts by 17/B to do same.* HOWEVER, SECURITY IN THE AREA  
BETWEEN PHA THEUNG AND THE NAM KHAN RIVER REMAINS TENUOUS. DURING THE COURSE  
OF THE PAST TEN DAYS, LAO THEUNG ~~XX~~ VILLAGERS IN BAN HOU EI SE, BAN BOUAM OH  
*24/136* *35/172* HOU EI YEN DIN PHA AND HOU EI PAY BEGAN TO FEEL THE PRESSURE AND MOVED TO  
MORE SECURE AREAS ALONG THE NAM KHEN RIVER AT BAN SOUAN LUANG (TG0692)  
BAN BAN EN (TG0895) AND BAN SA (TG0790). PHOU PHA THEUNG MEO LOCATED  
*villages (1,061 people)*  
IN THESE ~~AREA~~ SUBSEQUENTLY MOVED TO KM 6 AND KM 10 (TG0597 AREA), AS  
WELL AS TO LUANG PRABANG. TRYING TO BRING THESE PEOPLE TOGETHER IN ONE  
PLACE, (PROBABLY BETWEEN KOK NGIEU (TG0796) AND XIENG ~~XONG~~ LOM (TG1199),  
IS ANOTHER PROBLEM CURRENTLY FACING MAJOR VANG XANG.



D. KIOCACHAM-PHOU KHOUN AREA

AN OPERATION IS GETTING UNDERWAY TODAY TO RESECURE THE SECTION OF ROUTE 13 BETWEEN KIOCACHAM AND PHOU KHOUN AND TO RETAKE PHOU PHA LANG MOU (LS170) AND PHOU PHASANINE (TG2070). ~~XXXX~~ BG109 WILL EXECUTE THE LATTER PART OF THE OPERATION AND BI 15 WILL MOVE DOWN THE ROAD FROM KIOCACHAM. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT VILLAGERS STILL LIVING IN ABOUT FIVE VILLAGES IN THE PHASANINE AREA WILL ~~XXXX~~ MOVE TO SECURE AREAS ASSUMING THEY ARE LIBERATED BY BG109 TROOPS AND ~~XXXX~~ THE TROOPS DO NOT ESTABLISH PERMANENT POSITIONS IN THE AREA. IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT THOSE MEO ~~WHOM THE TROOPS~~ <sup>STILL IN THE</sup> PHA LANG MOU AREA ~~WERE~~ WERE TAKEN BY THE ENEMY TO PHA HOUNG (LS213). THE GROUP OF PHA KENG (TG2857) MEO WHO RECENTLY SHOWED UP AT PHOU KHOUN (LS260) ARE SUPPOSEDLY PART OF THE GROUP CAPTURED.

28 April

BG 109 input has been changed. Will now go up road to Pakxuang, (airlift fm LS 260 to LS 4.)

Kao Nya

Reportedly 1026 people in L.P. no more coming to city. Of this no., only about 150 are considered eligible for airlift. Vang Xang is adopting a wait and see attitude. According to him most are daps. (?) He claims Capt. Sao Yao Yang is to blame in that he did not follow VP's instructions to tell people to walk, but to go any way they wanted. (?)

Pak Ou

BI 17 pos. TH 1321 D.T.T. note of 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. John W. MacQueen, AD/RA

DATE: May 16, 1972

FROM : F. C. Benson, ORA/LP

SUBJECT: Sayaboury Refugees

Following the fall of Phou Fa (LS102 area) last spring and the fall of Phou Chia (LS25) early this year, 228 Xieng Khouang refugees moved to Nam Hia in Sayaboury Province. Most of these refugees are dependents of BG 224, an MR-II Battalion. It appears as though BG 224 soldiers have been agitating to have their families return to MR-II. In consequence, General Vang Pao has orally requested through Capt. Herchay that USAID furnish transportation for these people on a space-available basis.

There has been no official communication from VangPao to either USAID or the Lao Government concerning his request. Apparently V.P. regards this problem with his dependents as his alone and does not consider it necessary to go through provincial or national RLG offices.

On a trip to Nam Hia and Sayaboury on 14 May, Capt. Herchay and this reporter met with leaders of the Phou Chia refugee group. The refugees seem to be intent upon moving and say that the earliest time at which they could move to 272 would be 19 May. USAID would be required to provide truck transportation from Nam Hia to Sayaboury, and air transportation from Sayaboury to Ban Xon. Maximum requirement would be three C-123 trips.

As these refugees are the only Xieng Khouang military dependents Vang Pao has in the Sayaboury area, and since three C-123 backhaul trips are not an excessive requirement, this officer recommends concurrence with this request upon presentation of an official request to USAID and RLG/SYBY from General Vang Pao.

Clearance:

AC/LP:AJCauterucci 



29 May 1971

TO: JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: PHA THEUNG REFUGEES AND <sup>Zone</sup> ~~BATTALION~~ 17/B

ON 26 MAY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PHA THEUNG REFUGEES SENT A LETTER TO THE CHAO KHOUENG OF LUANG PRABANG REQUESTING PERMISSION ~~TO~~ FOR 12 FAMILIES 83 PEOPLE CURRENTLY LOCATED AT KM. 10 (VIC TGO497) TO MOVE TO PHOU KONG KHOUAY IN SAYABOURY PROVINCE (QA5325). THE STATED REASON FOR THE MOVE <sup>revolve</sup> ~~WAS~~ <sup>around the allegation by the refugees that they have nowhere ~~and~~ to go and</sup> WERE POOR HEALTH OF THE REFUGEES DUE TO THE LOWLAND CLIMATE. <sup>that</sup> ~~THE LACK~~ OF A VIABLE AREA TO MOVE TO, AND THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE RELATIVES AND THERE <sup>They are unable to remain in lowland areas.</sup> IS A RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF LAND AT PHOU KONG KHOUAY. CAPTAIN BOUN, DEPUTY COMMANDER OF 17/B, AN MR II UNIT, CLAIMS THAT IF THE CHAO KHOUENG AND LOCAL MILITARY LEADERS AGREE TO THE REFUGEES' REQUEST ALL OF THE PHA THEUNG REFUGEES WILL FOLLOW SUIT~~AND~~ AND LEAVE LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE.

MANY OF THE PHA THEUNG REFUGEES ARE DEPENDENTS OF 17/B SOLDIERS. IN RECENT WEEKS IT HAS BEEN RUMORED THAT VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE SOME 135 <sup>17/B</sup> TROOPS HAVE DESERTED. RECRUITING IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY IN THE KOK NGIEU (TGO796) AREA AND THE AREA ALONG THE RIDGELINE BETWEEN SG9974 AND TGO578, THE LOCATION OF SEVERAL INDIGENOUS MEO VILLAGES. ACCORDING TO 17/B, THE PURPOSE OF THE RECRUITING IS TO BRING THE TROOP STRENGTH <sup>Back</sup> UP TO 205 MEN FOLLOWING CASUALTIES SUFFERED SINCE THE FALL OF PHA THEUNG IN MARCH, REGARDLESS OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF 17/B (A RELATIVELY INEFFECTIVE UNIT), THE MOVEMENT OF THE PHA THEUNG REFUGEES TO PHOU KHONG KHOUAY WILL, GIVEN THEIR DEPENDENT STATUS, LEAD TO THE DESERTION OF VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE TROOPS. <sup>Given the current frame of mind of the Pha Theung refugees it would seem logical that rumors about desertion are true.</sup>

PHOU PHA THEUNG HAS BEEN IN FRIENDLY HANDS SINCE ABOUT 20 APRIL. IRREGULAR BATTALION 123 WAS RECENTLY REPLACED BY TWO COMPANIES FROM BV-15 AND BV-18,. THE CURRENT ~~PLAN~~ 17/B PLAN IS TO WITHDRAW THEIR 27 MAN FORCE FROM PHOU DAM (LS256) AND THEIR 40 MAN FORCE <sup>From</sup> ~~AT~~ TH1603) AND SEND THEM BACK TO PHA THEUNG IN ORDER TO RELIEVE THE FAR UNITS. ONCE THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED AND ONCE THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE AREA STABILIZES THE REFUGEES WILL PRESUMABLY BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME.



IT SEEMS, HOWEVER, THAT THE PHA THEUNG REFUGEES HAVE NO INTENTION OF RETURNING HOME. ONE KEY FACTOR IN THEIR DECISION IS THE RECENT ~~LAOS~~ LAW PROHIBITING OPIUM PRODUCTION, THEIR ONLY CASH CROP. ANOTHER FACTOR IS THAT SOME OF THE REFUGEES ~~LAOS~~ ARE FEARFUL OF BEING CONSCRIPTED BY THE MILITARY. TO THIS GROUP OF REFUGEES, PHOU ~~LAOS~~ KONG KHOUAY IS THE SOLUTION TO ALL OF THEIR PROBLEMS.

*The consequence of a move would be the depopulation of ~~all the~~ the Pha Theung ridge, ~~the~~ the eastern flank of Luang Prabang, and the demise of 17/B, the unit assigned to Phou Pha Theung.*

PHOU NONG KHOUAY IS AN AREA OF QUESTIONABLE REPUTATION. ALTHOUGH, RELATIVELY UNDER POPULATED (PROBABLY NO MORE THAN 300 PEOPLE) IT HAS RECENTLY REJECTED OVERTURES FROM MR II AND HAS LONG BEEN SUBJECT TO PL/NVA INFLUENCE. MOST OF THE MEO IN THE AREA ORIGINALLY CAME FROM PHONG SALY AND THE DIEN BEEN PHU AREA. THEIR LEADER IS A LUNATIC WHO CLAIMS SUPERNATURAL POWERS.

THE DESIRE OF THE PHA THEUNG REFUGEES TO MOVE TO SAYABOURY IS LOGICAL. DURING THE COURSE OF THE PAST TEN TO TWENTY YEARS MANY ~~MEOS~~ PHA THEUNG MEO HAVE MIGRATED TO SOUTHERN SAYABOURY PROVINCE IN SEARCH OF BETTER LAND, ETC.

cc. AC/8K



F. C. Benson, ORA/LP

## Phou Houa Mouei (LS-67)

Phou Houa Mouei is the site of the command post of Zone 17/C, an MR II ADO unit commanded by Maj. Vang Cheng. Zone 17/C encompasses nearly thirty villages totaling 3,000 people situated within a 10 km radius of Site 67. The majority of the inhabitants of the area are Meo, with a few Lao Theung and Lao scattered about on the hillsides and in the Nam Met Valley. Friendly units are situated in Site 67 (92 men), Houei Sanin (QB8159)--20 men, and Houei Hok (QB8557)--38 men. A RLG civilian presence in the area takes the form of schools located at Phou Sanit (QB8257), Houei Hok (QB8557), Pak Hat (QB8650), and Na Mong (QB7855). The area's only medical facility, staffed by a military medic, is located at Site 67. There is generally a shortage of medicines, the only "source" being Sayaboury.

By admission of the area commander, Zone 17/C policy with regard to the enemy is "live and let live". Most of the troops are local recruits, and offensive activity on the part of either the friendlies or the enemy is virtually unknown. Enemy activity in the area consists primarily of trail activity on the perimeter of the zone. Originating in the vicinity of Phou Sam Phan (VIC QB8090), the enemy moves supplies southward on north-south trails situated roughly ten kilometers on either side of Site 67. Supplies moving down the eastern trail are usually funneled into Luang Prabang Province across the Mekong River at points between Pak Hao (QB9368) and Ban Houei Kua (QB9662), and at points north of Pak Neun (QB9730). On the western trail, supplies are moved southward to Phou Dao (QB6544). Ban Na So (QB7353) and Ban Na San (QB7452), although friendly villages, are often visited by enemy soldiers moving in the area.

Ban Na Kham (QB8573), a Thai Dam village consisting of about thirty houses situated about 10 km north of Phou Houa Mouei along the Nam Hao River, serves as a source of consumer goods for enemy units stationed to the north.

Maj. Vang Cheng claims to have recently sought permission from the Chao Khoueng of Sayaboury to relocate small groups of villagers scattered along the eastern trail in adjacent settled areas near Pak Hao (RB9368), Houei Thong (RB8661), and Houei Meut (RB8363), thus denying the enemy a source of supplies.

Date: June 1, 1972

By: Fritz Benson

Subj: Thong Khang (LS-355)

Prior to the spring of 1971 Thong Khang was situated in the heartland of an enemy-infested zone which stretched northward from the Na Fay (SG-0460?) – Na Muong (SG-8759) axis. In early 1971, elements of BGR-131, an irregular Lao Theung battalion commanded by Major Xieng Man Noi (a key Lao Theung leader from north-central Luang Prabang Province), moved into and succeeded in clearing large portions of the area. Based at Thong Khang (LS-355), the battalion encountered sporadic contact with the enemy prior to being forced to withdraw in September 1971. Thong Khang was quickly reoccupied, however, and Xieng Man Noi has utilized the subsequent period of relative quiet to build upon and expand his contacts in the predominantly Lao Theung area. To date, the BGR-131 zone of operations includes all of the territory south from LS-355 to Ban Na Khang Theung (SG-8643), as far east as Phou Chia (LS-25), and the territory west/northwest of Thong Khang as far as the Mekong River.

Xieng Man Noi's explanation for the large-scale voluntary defections is probably relatively sound. In a letter to the Chao Khoueng of Luang Prabang, Xieng Man Noi accused Neng Tong Tao of withholding the pay of Pha Ngam and Na Leng ADO and generally acting in a manner unbefitting of a local military commander and civilian leader. A key factor from the "defectors" point of view has been the recruitment policy of Long Cheng (LS-20A). The letter was forwarded to Gen. Vang Pao who dismissed it emphasizing that Nong Tong Tao would not be removed. (Note: No people from the Thong Khang area have been recruited by Long Cheng for several years.) The feud, a significant one, continues.

Xieng Man Noi's objective, it seems, is to assure the leadership of all of the non-Lao ethnic groups in Luang Prabang Province. In so doing it is likely that he is receiving the backing of Col. Sichan, his chief in Houa Khong Province in the early 1960s.

The opposition poised against Xieng Man Noi centers primarily on the MR-2 faction in Luang Prabang, local Meo and Lao Theung who have, for one reason or another, Lao Theung dependents (originally from the Muong La area in Luang Prabang) are currently located in the Houei Phay area. Xieng Man Noi claims that over the past year or so many of the Lao Theung soldiers fighting in MR-2 have deserted and either returned home or enlisted in MR-1 SGU units.

Another source of opposition, Assemblyman Xieng Phan of Phongsaly Province, has accused Xieng Man Noi of meddling in the affairs of the Phongsaly Lao Theung.

That Xieng Man Noi will completely achieve his objectives is unlikely. His position in the MR-1 Irregulars hierarchy is relatively insignificant, as is his standing viz-a-viz MR-2 elements in Luang Prabang (Gen. Vang Pao notwithstanding). He has succeeded, however, in carving out a foothold in the greater Thong Khang area, and has proven himself capable of fulfilling the dual role of civilian leader and military commander, the only one of his type remaining in Region 1.



#### NOTES:

The Xieng Man Noi “family” has its roots in Phongsaly Province. The original leader, Xieng Chang, was the former leader of Tasseng Yang Teng Tai. His brother was Xieng Sen Mi. His sister had three children?: Xieng Phan, Xieng Si Phan, and Xieng Man Noi. The three split up in late 1970 after Col. Thong Khanh took over from Vannasing Vannaseng as Chao Khoueng Phongsaly and brought all Lao Theung into the MR-1 fold. After the ascension of T.P., some defected to MR-2.

201 – Muong Lao (Capt. Thao Chan)

202 – Phongsaly (Maj. Xieng Phan, Maj. Xieng Si Phan.

205 – Thai Dam (Muong Ngoi, etc.) – Lo Vang Kham, co-commander Kham Xieng (Thai Dam)

TO: John W. MacQueen, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. Benson, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: Current Events

10 June 1972

### 1. Kiocacham Area

On about 22 May two companies of BI-15 and BV-17 captured enemy-controlled Phou Pha Lang Mou (LS-170). No refugees were generated in the action, most of the population remaining in the area having escaped to Kiocacham in early May from a point east of Site 170 where they were being held by the enemy. By the end of May, BV-17 (100+ men) and 45 armed Pha Lang Mou villagers were in position at Pha Lang Mou. According to Col. Chao Sin, deputy MR I commander, BV-17 will move on enemy-occupied Phou Phasanine (TG2170) as soon as the armed villagers demonstrate an interest in defending Pha Lang Mou. So far, Site 170 refugees located at Kio Nya and Kiocacham have made no preparations for returning home.

### 2. Pak Bac Area

During the last week of May, two FAR commando companies located at Kio Nya moved into the Pak Bac (TG1686) area for the purpose of conducting a sweeping operation against the area immediately to the north. The commando companies were replaced at Kio Nya by a mixed company from Xieng Ngeun. By and large the operation did not accomplish its objective, although numerous skirmishes were reported. The troops withdrew from the area at the end of the first week in June.

Apparently the only noteworthy incident during the operation was an attack on 30 May against two FAR positions situated north and south of Kio Nya--Ban Kio Mak Nao (Vic TGO779) and Ban Kio Muong (Vic TGO784). At 2400 hours on the 29th the Meo village and FAR outpost at Kio Mak Nao were attacked by an estimated 40 enemy. The village suffered two civilians killed and eleven wounded. The FAR unit sustained two KIA and six WIA.

Ban Kio Muong, an abandoned Meo village, sustained three friendly WIA during an attack at 0620 hours on the 30th.

### 3. Phou Pha Theung

Phou Pha Theung has been in friendly hands since about 20 April. SGU Battalion 123, the unit which recaptured Pha Theung, was

replaced in early May by two companies from BV-15 and BV-18. These troops were replaced, in turn, by some 40 Zone 17/B soldiers, the area's original contingent, who were withdrawn from positions at Phou Dam (LS256) and TG1603.

Phou Pha Theung has still not been entirely secured. Most of the area south of the 17/B position at TG1696 on the Phou Pha Theung ridge is still reportedly in enemy hands, as is the territory between the Nam Khan river and the enemy-held portion of the ridge.

Given the relatively questionable security in the area, it is presently unlikely that the Pha Theung refugees will be returning home in the near future. Further, it is doubtful that all of the Pha Theung refugees are anxious to return to their villages. On 26 May a representative of the Pha Theung refugees sent a letter to the Chao Khoueng of Luang Prabang requesting permission for twelve families eighty-three people currently located at km. 10 (vic TGO497) to move to Phou Kong Khouay in Sayaboury Province (QA5325). While the stated reason for their desire to move is their inability to acclimatize to the Luang Prabang area, Maj. Vang Xang, Zone 17/B commander, cited the law banning opium production as a major factor. Maj. Vang Xang was concerned that if this group was permitted by Khoueng officials to leave the Province others would follow (including dependents of 17/B troops). As it turned out, the refugees' request was not honored.

#### 4. Thong Khang Area

On 1 June BGR 131 troops launched an operation against an enemy stronghold located in the Pha Ling (SG8675) area. BGR 131 is pitted against some three enemy companies plus a group of thirty NVA: One company from Phou Vaysom (QB9395) led by a Lao Theung named Boun-Thong, one company from the Ban Keng Khouang (TG1979) area commanded by Khamleck, and one indigenous company commanded by Khamphay. The Pha Ling area's NVA advisor is a man by the name of Khamdao. Several light skirmishes have been reported in the Pha Ling area thus far. On 1 June and on 5 June T/28s struck enemy positions killing four PL and two NVA.

The Pha Ling area has been more or less unfriendly for the past twenty years. Administratively, Pha Ling is the seat of Tasseng Muong Khay, a township in Muong Khampheng district (a unit which



comprises the RLG districts of Muong Khay and Muong Xieng Ngeun). The nai-tasseng of Tasseng Muong Khay is Khamphay Noi. The Chao Muong of Muong Khampheng is believed to be located in Ban Keng Khouang.

Of the some 300-400 Meo and Lao Theung inhabitants in the Pha Ling area, two families ten people managed to escape to Thong Khang on 6 June. In late April, four families attempting to escape to Houei Satep (SG8970) were intercepted by the enemy, who killed one of the escapees as a means of discouraging further escape attempts. It is estimated that one-third of the area's population would attempt to escape to government-held areas if the opportunity should arise.

Given the relatively low population in the Pha Ling area, the enemy has regarded it as being of relatively low priority. Administratively speaking, the villagers have more or less been left alone, the only village-level political organizations being the Nouei Panacngan and the Nouei Sow Hai Sow Na. At the present time the local villagers are experiencing a food shortage following a poor harvest last year. Military supplies, when brought into the area, come mostly from the Ban Keng Khouang area, although occasionally supplies are brought in from Phou Vaysom via Ban Sen Khalok (RB0481).

BGR 131 teams are currently patrolling the area northwest and south of Thong Khang in order to cover Site 355 from an attack on its flanks. A group of thirty enemy have reportedly moved into the area southwest of Pha Ling, and some two enemy companies (60 men) are reportedly in the greater Ban Pong Dong (RB1361) area (Pong Dong is situated on the Muong Nane road).

Although refugees in the Thong Khang and Houei Satep (SG8970) areas are concerned about the current situation, Maj. Sieng Man Noi, the area commander, does not believe the enemy is in a position to harass the local population at this time. Although the commanders of the Vaysom and Keng Khouang companies are reportedly pushing for an attack against Thong Khang, Khamphay, commander of the local company is opposing them.

FCB/fcb  
6/13/72

Clearance: ACCauterucci 



TO: JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA

22 JULY 1972

FROM: FRITZ BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: SITREP

1) KIOCACHAM AREA

ON 13 JUNE BI-15 LAUNCHED AN OPERATION FROM KIOCACHAM TO RETAKE PHOU PHASANINE (TG2170). PHASANINE WAS TAKEN WITH MINIMUM ENEMY RESISTANCE, ALTHOUGH OCCASIONAL CLASHES WERE REPORTED DURING THE SUBSEQUENT PERIOD. ABOUT 35 MEO VILLAGERS ORIGINALLY FROM PHASANINE HAVE BEEN ARMED AND ARE PRESENTLY DEPLOYED IN VILLAGES (UNINHABITED) IN THE VICINITY. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT REFUGEES FROM PHASANINE CURRENTLY LOCATED AT KIOCACHAM WILL RETURN HOME THIS YEAR.

THE AREA EAST OF RLG 13 AND SOUTH OF THE NAM KHAN RIVER LIES WITHIN THE OPERATIONAL JURISDICTION OF P.L. BATTALION 32, A UNIT CONSISTING OF ONLY ABOUT 120 MEN AND HEADQUARTERED AT TGL876. THE BATTALION COMMANDER IS A LAO THEUNG BY THE NAME OF NAI BOUNTHANH. HIS ASSISTANT IS NAI KHAMPHENG, AND THE COMPANY COMMANDERS ARE NAI BOUNKHONG, NAI KHAMPHAY AND NAI BOUNTHA. NAI BOUA SONH IS THE BATTALION'S POLITICAL OFFICER.

ABOUT FIFTY PER CENT OF THE VILLAGES EAST OF THE PHASANINE-PHA LANG MOU AXIS--TASSENG DANE KHOUA, MUONG XIENG NGEUN--ARE STILL INHABITED. RUMORS THAT VILLAGERS CAPTURED EARLIER THIS YEAR IN THE NAM MING VALLEY (TASSENG BAN LONG AND TASSENG CHOMKHAM) WERE TAKEN TO BAN SOP CHOUAN (TGL380) ARE QUESTIONABLE IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF NEW HOUSING NEAR THE VILLAGE (WHICH CONTINUES TO BE INHABITED). THE CHAO MUONG OF XIENG NGEUN CLAIMS, HOWEVER, THAT SMALL GROUPS OF REFUGEES FROM THE NAM AREA HAVE ESCAPED FROM THE SOP CHOUAN AREA TO MUONG KASSY.

2) PHOU PHA THEUNG

MR-2 MEO UNIT 17/B CONTINUES TO TWIDDLE ITS THUMBS IN THE PHA THEUNG AREA. DEPENDING ON WHO YOU TALK TO THERE ARE BETWEEN 18 AND 37 MEO TROOPS IN POSITION AT TG1696. AN ADDITIONAL 77 ZONE 17/B SOLDIERS--MOSTLY NEW RECRUITS FROM THE PHOU KASAK AREA (VIC TGO276)--ARE IN TRAINING AT XIENG NGEUN IN PREPARATION FOR A MASSIVE ASSULT ON PHA THEUNG. THE 17/B CONTINGENT ON PHA THEUNG IS BEING BACKED UP BY ONE COMPANY FROM THE FAR MIXED BATTALION BASED AT XIENG NGEUN.

THE AREA EFFECTIVELY UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL ON THE PHA THEUNG RIDGE HAS NOT CHANGED FROM MY 10 JUNE 1972 SITREP. TO THE EAST OF PHA THEUNG ARE LOCATED P.L. BATTALIONS (ABOUT 200 MEN EACH) 409 AND 59 WHICH ARE SITUATED AT TG2289 AND TG3294, RESPECTIVELY.

ABOUT ELEVEN OF THE SOME 25 VILLAGES THAT FLED THE PHA THEUNG AREA HAVE EITHER RETURNED HOME OR WILL RETURN HOME IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SEVEN OF THE VILLAGES--HOUEI FAI, HOUEI SAI, HOUEI YEN DIN PHA, BOUAM OH, LONG CHOC NOI,

THE SEVEN VILLAGES INCLUDE BAN NA LENG, PHA HUNG TAI, NA LENG NEUA, NONG KHAM TAI, NONG KHAM NEUA, PHA HUNG KANG AND BAN HOUET HOP. ALTHOUGH THE VILLAGES WERE NEVER OCCUPIED BY THE ENEMY, P.L. PATROLS MOVED ABOUT IN THE AREA DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH. THE VILLAGES ARE PRESENTLY SITUATED NEAR THE TRAIL USED BY THE ENEMY TO MOVE SUPPLIES FROM THE PAK BAC AREA TO PHA SOK.

THE TASSENG OF PHOU CHIA, CHA LY SING, REQUESTED FROM MAJ. XIENG MAN NOI A SECURITY FORCE TO PROTECT THE LOCAL REFUGEES. WHEN ONE BGR-131 COMPANY WAS DISPATCHED TO THE AREA IN LATE APRIL, THE REFUGEES LEFT THEIR HIDING PLACES IN THE FOREST AND WENT TO PHOU DIN DENG. WHILE ALMOST ALL OF THE PHOU DIN DENG REFUGEES CLEARED AND BURNED THEIR HIGHLAND RICE FIELDS THIS YEAR, THE ENEMY INTRUSION PREVENTED THEM FROM PLANTING THEIR CROP.

ONE GROUP OF PHOU DIN DENG AREA REFUGEES--BAN PHA HOK (SG9259)--MOVED TO PHOU NGIEU (LS258) IN MARCH. ANOTHER GROUP--PHA HUNG NEUA--WENT TO PHOU SALALECK, WHICH IS SITUATED IN THE XIENG NGEUN--MUONG NANE VALLEY. THE NAIBAN OF PHA HUNG NEUA--THAO LU--HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN TRYING TO EVICT CHA LY SING FROM HIS POSITION AS TASSENG. ALTHOUGH THE PHA HUNG NEUA REFUGEES HAVE BEEN RECEIVING FOOD SUPPORT FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, THAO LY AND CAPT. NENG TONG TAO APPROACHED THE CHAO MUONG OF XIENG NGEUN IN AN ATTEMPT TO PREVENT FOOD SUPPORT FROM BEING ISSUED TO THE PHOU DIN DENG REFUGEES ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY WERE NOT REAL REFUGEES.

PREVIOUSLY, THE PHOU DIN DENG AREA REFUGEES PROVIDED CAPT. NENG TONG TAO WITH ONE COMPANY OF ADO SOLDIERS. OVER THE YEARS, THE LOCAL ADO GRADUALLY BECAME DISILLUSIONED WITH NENG TONG TAO BECAUSE HE DID NOT PAY THEM AND BECAUSE HE PROPOSED SENDING SELECTED ADO SOLDIERS TO MR-II. WHEN PHOU CHIA FELL EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE LOCAL ADO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION TO DEFECT TO MR-I.

AGRICULTURALLY SPEAKING, PHOU DIN DENG IS AN UNTENABLE AREA. IF THE REFUGEES ARE UNABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR NATIVE VILLAGES THIS YEAR THEY WILL BE FORCED TO MOVE TO AN AGRICULTURALLY MORE PRODUCTIVE AREA, PROBABLY IN THE VICINITY OF THONG KHANG. THE PHOU DIN DENG REFUGEES INTEND TO PLANT AN OPIUM CROP THIS YEAR.

#### 5) BAN SENESY (SG8848)

BAN SENESY IS A LAO THEUNG VILLAGE POPULATED BY 354 PEOPLE. ONCE A VERY PROSPEROUS VILLAGE, BAN SENESY BURNED TO THE GROUND ON 15 FEBRUARY. THEIR RICE STOCKS HAVING BEEN CONSUMED, PL-480 SUPPORT WILL BE ISSUED THROUGH HARVEST.

DESTROYED IN THE FIRE WAS SOME 5,000 KALONGS OF RICE, A SURPLUS WHICH WAS ACCUMULATED OVER A THREE-YEAR PERIOD. BAN SENESY HAS IN THE PAST SOLD MUCH

OF ITS SURPLUS RICE TO RICE DEFICIENT VILLAGES IN THE AREA. PHOU CHIA HAS BEEN THE PRIMARY MARKET FOR SENESY RICE. UNABLE TO GROW RICE AT PHOU CHIA, THE LOCAL MEO HAVE FOR YEARS RELIED ON PROFITS FROM THEIR OPIUM CROP TO PURCHASE RICE.

MOST OF THE VILLAGES NORTH AND WEST OF SENESY (INCLUDING SENESY) HAVE ALIGNED THEMSELVES WITH MAJ. XIENG MAN NOI, AND HAVE PROVIDED THE MAJORITY OF THE SOME 300 SOLDIERS IN BGR-131, THE LOCAL MILITIA BASED AT THONG KHANG.

THE SOUTHERNMOST "FRIENDLY" VILLAGE IN THE AREA IS BAN KANG (RB1338). BAN KANG HAS HAD A RATHER TURBULENT HISTORY. THE MEO AND LAO THEUNG AT BAN KANG HAVE BEEN AT ODDS WITH ONE ANOTHER EVER SINCE THE MEO, WHO ARE/WERE ALIGNED WITH PHOU CHIA, SHELLED AND BURNED DOWN THE LAO THEUNG VILLAGE SEVERAL YEARS AGO. IN CONSEQUENCE, THE LAO THEUNG, WHO HAVE CONTACTS WITH THE P.L. IN THE AREA (THE ASSISTANT NAIBAN IS AN OLD P.L. LEADER), HAVE MORE OR LESS SUCCEEDED IN BLOCKADING FREE PASSAGE BY THE MEO TO THE MEKONG RIVER. ANY MEO CAUGHT MOVING AROUND IN THE AREA TO THE WEST IS REPORTEDLY SHOT.

THE MEO THEMSELVES HAVE ALWAYS REMAINED RELATIVELY INDEPENDENT EVEN THOUGH THEY NOMINALLY SUPPORT NENG TONG TAO. PHOU CHIA HAS FOR SOME TIME RECRUITED ADO IN THE BAN KANG AREA, AND NENG TONG TAO CLAIMS A LOCAL ADO UNIT AT BAN KANG TOTALLING 40 MEN. SEVERAL YEARS AGO, HOWEVER, A GROUP OF ARMED ADO SELECTED TO GO TO WORK IN MR-II BOLTED WITH THEIR WEAPONS AND STIRRED THINGS UP TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT A FAR PLATOON WAS DISPATCHED FROM MUONG NANE TO BAN SENESY IN ORDER TO RESTORE PEACE AND QUIET. THE PLATOON DID NOT LAST LONG, HOWEVER. THE LOCAL BAN KANG ADO, IF STILL IN PLACE AS AN ORGANIZED UNIT, IS REPORTEDLY NO LONGER ON THE PAYROLL (OR AT LEAST NOT GETTING PAID).

THE ENEMY STRONGHOLD IN THE GREATER BAN KANG AREA IS LOCATED AT A MOUNTAIN CALLED PHOU BAW LEO, SITUATED A SHORT DISTANCE SOUTHWEST OF BAN KANG. THE STRONGHOLD IS GARRISONED BY ABOUT TWO COMPANIES OF LOCAL P.L. AND SEVERAL NVA ADVISORS.

AFTER THE FALL OF THE MUONG KASSY AREA EARLIER THIS YEAR, SOME 73 FAMILIES FROM THE KASSY AREA EN ROUTE TO A SAFE HAVEN IN THE PHOU CHIA-THONG KHANG AREA WERE CAPTURED BY LOCAL P.L./NVA AND TAKEN TO PHOU BAW LEO. THREE FAMILIES WHO MANAGED TO ESCAPE ARE NOW AT BAN KANG.

AN ADDITIONAL GROUP OF 30 FAMILIES FROM THE PHA LING AREA WERE REPORTEDLY ESCORTED TO THE PHOU BAW LEO AREA BY 30 P.L. AND BETWEEN FIVE AND EIGHT NVA.

6) PAK NEUN (QB9730) AND PAK BO (QB9615)

PAK NEUN AND PAK BO ARE LOCATED IN TASSENG PAK NEUN, MUONG NANE. IN 1966-67 USAID SUPPORTED REFUGEES IN THE PAK NEUN AREA WHO WERE DISPLACED DURING A FAR CLEARING OPERATION IN THE HILLS TO THE EAST OF PAK NEUN AND PAK BO. THE REFUGEES MOVED TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS NEAR PAK NEUN.

WHEN MUONG KASSY WAS EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES EARLIER THIS YEAR, A NUMBER OF VILLAGES FROM THE AREA BETWEEN MUONG KASSY AND MUONG MET SOUGHT REFUGE AT PAK NEUN AND PAK BO. AN INVESTIGATING TEAM WILL SOON BE DISPATCHED TO LOOK INTO THE SITUATION OF THESE REFUGEES.

BAN PAK BO WAS ESTABLISHED AS A VILLAGE BY THE FRENCH DURING THE COLONIAL PERIOD. THE SITE OF LEAD DEPOSITS, THE FRENCH EMPLOYED LABORERS FROM LUANG PRABANG TO MINE LEAD FOR THEIR ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY.

THROUGH NECESSITY, PAK NEUN AND PAK BO MAINTAIN CONTACTS WITH THE P.L. AREA TO THE EAST. This AREA, WHICH LIES SOUTH OF BAN KANG, IS INHABITED BY SEVERAL THOUSAND PEOPLE, MOSTLY LAO THEUNG.

7) PHOU HOUA MOUEI (LS67)

IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE PHOU HOUA MOUEI AREA COMMANDER, MAJ.

VANG CHING, A USAID MEDIC WILL BE SENT FROM SAYABOURY TO LS67 FOR A TEN DAY PERIOD FOR THE PURPOSE OF LOOKING INTO THE HEALTH CONDITIONS OF THE 3,000 LOCAL INHABITANTS (MOSTLY MEO). IF LOCAL RECEPTIVENESS AND RESPONSE IS FAVORABLE, ORA MAY REQUEST THAT A MOBILE MEDICAL TEAM BE SENT TO PHOU HOUA MOUEI ON A REGULAR BASIS.

AN INVESTIGATION WILL ALSO BE MADE OF THE EDUCATION SITUATION IN THE PHOU HOUA MOUEI AREA. THE LS67 AREA COMMANDER HAS REQUESTED THAT USAID ASSIST IN SUPPLYING SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO THE TWO SCHOOLS IN THE AREA.

cc. JACK WILLIAMSON



Mr. Louis Connick, AC/LP

August 11, 1972

F. C. Benson, ORA/LP

### Opium Redirective

Based on casual investigation of the role of opium in the Meo economy and alternative/supplementary sources of income, several aspects of local relevance have come to light which may be of some interest to those engaged in planning the course of the opium redirective program.

The Meo population in RLG-controlled areas in the L. P. project area totals approximately 13,000 people. Of this number, approximately 9,000 are refugees:

<u>Location</u>	<u>People</u>	<u>Status</u>
Phou Dam (LS256)	577	Refugees--in place 3 years
Phou Luang Neua (TH01116)	365	Same
Phou Luang Tai (TH0114)	682	Same
Pha Theung (TG1696)	1,046	Refugees (1972)--now at Xieng Lom area (TG1199)
Kiocacham (LS04)	851	Refugees (1972)--from LS170 area
Kio Nya (TG0783)	1,942	Refugees (1971)--from LS170/ LS213 area
	500±	Old refugees (1968)--from Muong Sai
Phou Kasak (TG0377)	500±	Indigenous
Phou Chia (LS25)	1,841	Refugees (1972)--return to homes hom in area
Pha Lam Pen (SG9535)	750±	Indigenous
Muong Nane area (LS254)	1,500±	Indigenous
Pha Sok area (SG9483)	1,013	Refugees (1972)--now being resettled along Long Nam Khan
Houei Ta Sae area (SG8999)	500±	Indigenous/old refugees
Phou Din Deng (SG9365)	1,037	Refugees (1972)--from surrounding area

While almost all of the people living at the locations listed above have in the past planted a certain amount of opium, the bulk of the opium has been harvested in the Pha Theung, Kio Nya, Phou Kasak, Phou Din Deng, Phou Chia,



and Pha Lam Pen areas. With the possible exception of the recently displaced Pha Sok area refugees and the Meo refugees located at Kiocacham, it is likely that all of the area's Meo (including those displaced earlier this year from Pha Theung) will plant varying amounts of opium this year.

For certain areas--namely, Phou Chia--which annually register a rice deficit due to the paucity of land suitable for upland rice cultivation, the sale of opium provides a vitally needed source of income which is in turn used to purchase rice from adjacent rice surplus areas. Other areas, such as Pha Theung, Phou Kasak and Pha Sok, cultivate opium as a supplement to other cash crops. These areas are/have been either completely or partially self-sufficient in rice.

Meo refugees at Phou Dam, Phou Luang and Phou Din Deng who are dependent upon refugee food assistance and generally have no supplemental source of income, plant opium in small amounts as a means of acquiring needed cash.

The average annual opium yield in the Luang Prabang area brings the planter an income of approximately 100,000 kip. This is supplemented by the occasional sale of corn (average annual yield being two tons per family) and livestock (usually cattle). Fruits and vegetables are also sold; for example, Phou Chia sells locally grown peaches in Luang Prabang. Certain other crops, such as coffee grown at Pha Theung, are used for local consumption only. Lumped together, the average annual income of indigenous local Meo probably occasionally approaches 200,000 kip. Successful Meo living in Luang Prabang city and engaged in growing and marketing vegetables, etc., may earn only 100,000 kip per year.

Since the bulk of the local opium is produced by indigenous villagers, it would seem logical that the major emphasis of the program be placed on this group of people. A special effort should be made to determine which of the diversity of economic endeavors in which they are engaged could serve as an economic substitute to opium.

Deserving of special attention is animal husbandry. Most indigenous Meo possess cattle, pigs and horses, and over the years have developed relatively advanced animal husbandry techniques. Although livestock, especially cattle, are often sold by local Meo (at least 50,000 kip/head), disease, poor feed and the lack of grazing areas take their toll on the growth and birth rate to the extent that marketing of livestock can take place only once every two or three years. It may be worthwhile investigating the extent to which the marketing of livestock could serve as a

substitute source of income if improved husbandry techniques are introduced. Phou Chia, the location of some 500 head of cattle, would be an ideal site for such a preliminary investigation.

Secondly, a survey should be made of the type of subsistence crops currently being grown by the Meo (such as coffee) and the marketing potential of such crops.

It is unlikely that any type of redirective program will put a complete halt to the cultivation of the poppy, nor will it necessarily cancel out the economic benefits derived from planting opium. Such a program, if properly executed, could, however, enable USAID to upgrade the agricultural and animal husbandry capabilities of the local Meo to the extent that their average annual income could be increased. In so far as the economic situation in almost all Meo locations varies from one place to another, any type of redirective effort would have to be geared to the local-prevailing conditions. If nothing else, a redirective program could turn out to be an interesting (and worthwhile) experiment, which, if it succeeds, could offer a feasible economic alternative to opium if and when the day comes when the ban on opium cultivation is strictly enforced.

cc: AD/RA  
CDAA/LP  
AGR/LP

ORA/LP:FCBenson:ab



Mr. John W. MacQueen, AD/RA

August 17, 1972

*F. C. Benson*  
F. C. Benson, ORA/LP

Dependents

On 15 August the Chief MSW, AB-1, and myself met with Col. Thongphanh re dependent support. It was agreed by all parties that ORA/MSW would assume a supervisory role in the distribution of rice to dependents of all irregular MR-I units commencing 1 September.

The existing distribution system will not be changed. At the present time all rice is distributed from a central point in the SGU camp for a period of eight days every month. By order of Col. Thongphanh, each unit will update its dependent lists for submission to ORA by the end of August.

Lists will be based on the unit payrolls, and dependent names will be verified at the distribution point. Physical existence will be checked by on-site investigation. Ration cards will be issued following verification of dependent lists. Lists will be maintained up to date through close liaison with unit representatives assigned to the headquarters camp.

The dependent ration quota for MR-I dependents will probably be increased to ten kg rice and five kg PL-480 beginning in October.

Dependent lists of all MR-II units are being checked this month, and ORA has assumed complete responsibility (August) for the distribution of rice to these dependents. Thirty-three per cent PL-480 substitution will begin in September based on the 10-5 ration quota.

cc: E. Kuhn, ORA/Vte

Clearance: AC/LP:LConnick *Louis Connick*

ORA/LP:FCBenson:ab



TO: JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
 FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
 SUBJ: MONTHLY SITREP--AUGUST

31 AUGUST 1972

1) PHA SOK AREA (SG8876)

ON 28 JULY BY-17 LAUNCHED A TWO-PRONGED TRAINING OPERATION FROM PAK SII (RB1189) AND BAN THINE (TGO284) TO CLEAR THE PHA SOK (SG8876)-NONG KHOUAY (SG9483) AREA. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE OPERATION WAS TWOFOLD: TO CLEAR OUT SMALL ENEMY UNITS OPERATING IN THE AREA AND TO MOVE OUT THE MEO AND LAO THEUNG POPULATION WHICH REPORTEDLY HARBORED AND SUPPORTED THE ENEMY AND WHOSE SLASH AND BURN METHOD OF CULTIVATION ENDANGERED THE WATERSHED OF THE NAM DONG STREAM WHICH FEEDS THE RESERVOIR BEHIND THE HYDROELECTRIC DAM AT XIENG MOUAK (SG9793). THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY REPORTED OCCURED AT 1330 HRS ON 31 JULY WHEN FRIENDLY TROOPS KILLED ONE NVA CAPTAIN AND WOUNDED FIVE PL WHILE THE FORMER WAS ISSUING THE PAYROLL TO A GROUP OF 35 PL AND FIFTEEN NVA.

THE MOVEMENT OF VILLAGERS OUT OF THE PHA SOK AREA TOOK PLACE DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST. A TOTAL OF MORE THAN 500 REFUGEES MOVED TO THE REFUGEE RECEPTION CENTER AT THIN KEO (MUONG KHAY) VIA XIENG MOUAK, AND THE BALANCE OF NEARLY 1,000 REFUGEES MOVED TO THE XIENG NGEUN SCHOOL AND TO VILLAGE #1 IN THE XIENG NGEUN-MUONG NANE VALLEY. THE REFUGEES MOVED FROM THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>
BOUAM MEUT	SG9993	38	241	MEO
BOUAM PHOUK	SG9891	28	153	"
HOUA PHOU	SG9899	23	128	"
HOUEI THOUNE	SG9884	18	113	"
HOUEI LUANG	SG9185	12	59	LAO THEUNG
HOUEI PHENG	SG9685	49	292	"
NONG KHOUAY	SG9483	8	39	"
LONG SA	SG9687	18	112	MEO
NONG KHOUAY	SG9483	6	26	"

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>
PHONE NEUANG	SG9887	21	141	MEO
HOUET HIN YOM	SG9082	10	57	"

TWO ADDITIONAL VILLAGES THAT WERE DISPLACED HAVE BEEN PERMITTED BY THE MILITARY TO RETURN HOME AS THEY ARE NOT LOCATED IN THE XIENG MOUAK WATERSHED AREA:

BAN DIN PHA	SG9391	19	109	LAO THEUNG
NONG TOC	SG9290	14	80	"

ALL OF THE ABOVE VILLAGES ARE IN TASSENG NALUANG, MUONG LUANG PRABANG.

IN APRIL BG-131 MAINTAINED TWO POSITIONS IN THE PHA SOK AREA AT HOUET PHENG AND NONG KHOUAY. AT THAT TIME, NONG KHOUAY MEO REPORTEDLY PROVIDED RICE AND OTHER SUPPLIES TO GROUPS OF ENEMY LOCATED IN ADJACENT AREAS. THE WHOLE AREA HAD LONG BEEN UNDER ENEMY INFLUENCE (SEVERAL NVA WHO HAD BEEN IN RESIDENCE FOR MANY YEARS HAD TAKEN LOCAL WIVES), AND ATTEMPTS MADE BY BG-131 TO CONTROL THE SITUATION WERE GENERALLY UNSUCCESSFUL. COMPLAINTS FROM LOCAL MEO VILLAGERS TO THE EFFECT THAT BG-131 RESTRICTED THEIR MOVEMENT REACHED MR-I HEADQUARTERS AND, SO THE STORY GOES, MR-I WAS PROMPTED TO ORDER THE BG-131 UNITS TO WITHDRAW FROM THE AREA. DURING THEIR STAY IN THE AREA BG-131 MADE MANY CONTACTS WITH THE LOCAL LAO THEUNG. SOLDIERS WERE RECRUITED AT HOUET PHENG, AND A MILITARY TEACHER WAS INSTALLED THERE. SHORTLY AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL OF BG-131 THE LAO THEUNG NAIBAN OF BAN NONG KHOUAY WAS ASSASSINATED BY THE ENEMY.

ON 7 AUGUST A MEETING WAS HELD AT THE KHOUENG OFFICE TO DECIDE THE FATE OF THE PHA SOK AREA REFUGEES. IT WAS DECIDED THAT ALL OF THE VILLAGERS SHOULD BE RELOCATED IN THE LONG NAM KHAN REFUGEE RELOCATION AREA. COL. SICHAN, CHIEF OF THE MIXED GENERAL STAFF, AGREED THAT THE REFUGEES WOULD BE PERMITTED TO RETURN HOME UNDER ESCORT TO RETRIEVE THE LIVESTOCK WHICH THEY LEFT BEHIND. ORA/MSW ALSO URGED THE MILITARY TO ALLOW THE REFUGEES



TO SEND FAMILY MEMBERS TO THE VILLAGES TO HARVEST THIS YEAR'S RICE CROP.

ON 21 AUGUST, THE CHAO KHOUENG DRAFTED A MEMORANDUM REQUESTING ~~THAT~~ ALL OF THE PHA SOK LAO THEUNG BE RELOCATED IN VILLAGE #8, AND THAT THE MEO BE PERMITTED TO RELOCATE IN THE VICINITY OF PHOU SALALECK (VIC SG9370). FOR THE TIME BEING, HOWEVER, ALL OF THE REFUGEES WILL REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL THEY HARVESTED THIS YEAR'S RICE CROP. THOSE MEO REFUGEES WHO HAVE BEEN QUARTERED IN THE XIENG NGEUN SCHOOL WILL SOON BEGIN WORK ON TEMPORARY BARRACKS WHICH WILL BE SITUATED BETWEEN VILLAGE #1 AND XIENG NGEUN.

CV-171 (BV-17) WILL REMAIN IN PERMANENT POSITION AT SG9986 NEAR BAN NONG KHOUAY.

2) HOUEI CHIA (RBO579) AREA

AT 2000 HRS ON 7 AUGUST ONE ENEMY COMPANY ATTACKED AN ADO POSITION AT BAN HOUEI CHIA (RBO579). SIXTEEN OF THE 44 MEN IN THE ADO UNIT WERE CAPTURED AND TAKEN TO BAN TOU HAU (RBO775), AND THE ENEMY STOLE 76 KALONGS OF RICE. TWELVE OF THE SIXTEEN MEN CAPTURED HAVE ESCAPED AND RETURNED TO HOUEI CHIA. THE VILLAGERS OF HOUEI CHIA (LT ADO DEPENDENTS) SCATTERED INTO THE FOREST DURING THE ATTACK, BUT HAVE SINCE RETURNED TO THEIR VILLAGE.

THE HOUEI CHIA ADO UNIT HAS LONG SUPPLIED INFORMATION ON ENEMY MOVEMENTS BETWEEN PHOU VAYSOM AND THE PHA SOK AREA. IT IS PROBABLE THAT THE ATTACK AGAINST THE VILLAGE WAS IN RETALIATION FOR THE PHA SOK OPERATION.

BAN TOU HAU IS A MEO VILLAGE WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER ENEMY INFLUENCE SINCE THE 1950s AND WHICH HAS MORE RECENTLY SERVED AS A COMMAND POINT FOR ENEMY OPERATIONS IN THE AREA. THE LOCAL PL LEADER IS A MEO BY THE PNAME OF LAO TONG. HIS DEPUTY IS SAY DANG. THERE WERE REPORTEDLY AS MANY AS 100 ENEMY WORKING OUT OF THE TOU HAU AREA, THE MAJORITY OF THEM HAVING MOVED INTO THE AREA FROM PHOU VAYSOM IN THE WAKE OF THE PHA SOK AREA.

AS AN ADJUNCT TO THE PHA SOK OPERATION AND IN RETALIATION FOR THE ATTACK AGAINST HOUEI CHIA, A FAR COMMANDO UNIT MOVED NORTH OUT OF BAN NA NUAN (RBO371) ON 16 AUGUST TO SWEEP THE TOU HAU AREA. (NA NUAN IS THE SITE OF A USAID SCHOOL PROJECT.) DURING THE WEEK-LONG SWEEP NO CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY WAS REPORTED.

CONCURRENTLY WITH THE TOU HAU OPERATION, BG-131 SWEEPED THE AREA WEST OF PHA LING (SG8676) AS FAR AS PHA KHOUANG (RBO771). (PHA KHOUANG WAS ATTACKED AND BURNED BY THE ENEMY IN JULY 1971 RESULTING IN THE DEATHS OF FIVE VILLAGERS. NO RLG TROOPS WERE GARRISONED IN THE VILLAGE. THE VILLAGERS MOVED TO MUONG NANE WHERE THEY ARE CURRENTLY RECEIVING REFUGEE SUPPORT.) BG-131 REPORTED NO CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY.

BOTH UNITS REPORTED, HOWEVER, THE BAN TOU HAU HAD BEEN ABANDONED BY THE ENEMY AND THAT THE VILLAGERS AT BAN SANAM PHA HEN (RBO674) HAD DISAPPEARED. BAN SANAM PHA HEN, A VILLAGE WHICH LIES ADJACENT TO TOU HAU, HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN THE TARGET OF AN ADO PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN TO WIN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF THE MEO VILLAGERS.

LAO TONG AND CO. ALLEGEDLY RETREATED TO BAN NAM CHUA (VIC PHOU BAW LEE--RE 22 JULY SITREP) BUT SHOWED UP AT 0800 HRS ON 28 AUGUST NEAR BAN NA NUAN. THE HOUEI CHIA ADO UNIT REPORTED SIGHTING ONE COMPANY OF ENEMY AT BAN NA NUAN AND ONE COMPANY OF ENEMY (INCLUDING 30 BT/MEO AND 16 NVA AT BAN HOUEI SENG (RBO473). THE COMPANY AT BAN HOUEI SENG REPORTEDLY MOVED IN FROM PHOU VAYSOM, AND IS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF MOVING IN SUPPLIES TO PHOU CHONG (QB9870). THE REPORTED OBJECTIVE OF THE ENEMY IS TO BANG BG-131. (FAR SOURCES REPORT A TOTAL OF ONLY ABOUT 36 ENEMY IN THE NA NUAN-HOUEI SENG AREA.)

### 3) KIOCACHAM AREA

ON 3 AUGUST 21/90 KIO MUONG REFUGEES AND 22/129 HOUEI TAO REFUGEES ARRIVED AT KIOCACHAM FROM ENEMY-HELD BAN HOUEI LEUK (TG3680), WHERE THEY HAD BEEN TAKEN AFTER BEING CAPTURED IN THE PHA NGAM (TG1558) AREA EARLIER THIS



YEAR (RE MY 24 APRIL REPORT). THE REFUGEES REPORTED THAT IN ADDITION TO THE TWO VILLAGES BEING HELD AT HOU EI LEUK, EIGHT PHA NGAM REFUGEE VILLAGES ARE NOW LOCATED AT SOP CHOUAN (TG4380). FOR THE FIRST SEVERAL MONTHS AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL AT HOU EI LEUK, ENEMY TROOPS WERE GARRISONED IN THEIR VILLAGE. AT THE TIME OF THEIR ESCAPE, TEN BATTALION 32 DEUANIST SOLDIERS AND 25 MUONG SOLDIERS WERE ENCAMPED SEVERAL KILOMETERS NORTH-WEST OF HOU EI LEUK.

DURING THE REFUGEES' PERIOD OF DETENTION, THE MEN WERE FORCED TO MAKE TWO TEN-DAY TRIPS TO MUONG SOUEI (L-108) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PORTAGING SUPPLIES (RICE AND AMMUNITION) BACK TO THE SOP CHOUAN AREA. PART OF THE RICE THUS OBTAINED WAS SOLD TO THE REFUGEES AT THE RATE OF 800 KIP (PL) PER KALONG. THE REFUGEES RECEIVED NO MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE ENEMY.

THE REFUGEES MOVED TO HOU EI SATEP (SG8970) ON 17 AUGUST.

CLEARANCE: LOU CONNICK, AC/LP \_\_\_\_\_

31/8/72

TO: JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
 FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
 SUBJ: POST-HARVEST FOOD REQUIREMENTS

2 SEPTEMBER 1972

ALL REFUGEES IN THE LUANG PRABANG AREA (RE AUGUST MONTHLY REPORT REFUGEE BREAKDOWN) WILL NO LONGER REQUIRE FOOD SUPPORT FOLLOWING HARVEST (NOVEMBER) WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
PAK LEUM	RB1392	178	LEPERS
MG NANE RD		1454	*INCLUDES NEW MEO/LT REFS AT XIENG NOEUN SCHOOL AND VILLAGE #1 AND ALL REFS AT HOUEI SATEP (SG8970)
PHOU SOUANG	TG0897	194	PHA THEUNG REFUGEES
HOUEI XIENG	TQ0693	685	" " "
THONG KHANG	LS355	1187	ALL REFUGEES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TASSENG PHOU PEN, MG PEK, KH XIENG KHOUANG REFUGEES
KIOTACHAM	LS04	851	
PHOU DIN DENG	SG9365	1037	
THIN KEO RECEPTION CENTER		524	*NEW MEO/LT
			*CONTINUED SUPPORT TO NEW MEO/LT ASSUMING ALL UNABLE TO HARVEST RICE AND ALL GO TO LONG NAM KHAN
		<hr/> TOTAL: 6110	

ASSUMING A POOR RICE CROP THIS YEAR, ALL REFUGEES CUT FROM THE ROLLS FOLLOWING HARVEST ~~WILL~~ WHO REQUIRE ADDITIONAL FOOD SUPPORT WILL BE ISSUED ONLY PL-480 COMMODITIES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
MG NANE RD		3688	ALL REFUGEES
THONG KHANG		1184	" "
		<hr/> TOTAL: 4875	

BEGINNING IN OCTOBER ALL REFUGEES WILL RECEIVE 8 KG RICE AND 7 KG PL-480.



PAGE 2

PL-480 REQUIREMENT WILL BE 42.7 MT PER MONTH.

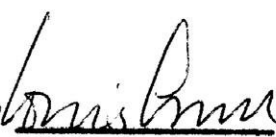
DEPENDENT FOOD SUPPORT WILL REMAIN CONSTANT, AND BEGINNING IN DECEMBER (AT THE LATEST) A 50% PL-480 SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM WILL ~~WILL~~ BE (HAVE BEEN) INITIATED RESULTING IN A RICE REQUIREMENT FOR 16,669 DEPENDENTS OF <sup>133.3</sup> ~~133.3~~ MT AND A PL-480 REQUIREMENT OF <sup>116.6</sup> ~~116.6~~ MT.

GIVEN A QUIET DRY SEASON IN ALL SECTORS OF LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, AND GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE MUONG NANE ROAD AND THONG KHANG REFUGEES WILL BE ABLE TO HARVEST AT LEAST SIX MONTH'S SUPPLY OF RICE, THE AVERAGE MONTHLY RICE REQUIREMENT FOR THE BALANCE OF THE FY SHOULD BE 200 MT.

IN THE EVENT THAT THE ENEMY LAUNCHES AN OPERATION OF THE SAME DEGREE AND INTENSITY <sup>AS</sup> OF THE 1971 OFFENSIVE, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REFUGEES REQUIRING RICE SUPPORT WOULD SWELL TO ITS PRESENT LEVEL OF 27,000 AND POSSIBLY EXCEED THAT LEVEL IF THE MUONG NANE-XIENG NGEUN SECTORS ARE DISTURBED. IN SUCH A SITUATION A MAXIMUM OF 50,000 <sup>WATERGATED</sup> ~~PEOPLE~~ WOULD REQUIRE FOOD SUPPORT.

REFUGEES

- MUONG KHAY

CLEARANCE: LOU CONNICK, AC/LP 

2/9/72

cc AC/LP  
KUHN, ORA  
SPROWELS, FFP  
ORA/LP

TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: FY-73 REFUGEE CD PROJECTS

4 SEPTEMBER 1972

BELOW IS A LIST OF PROPOSED ORA SPONSORED REFUGEE PROJECTS AS REQUESTED  
BY THE KHOUENG COMMITTEE AND SUBMITTED BY CDS, AC AND ORA/LP:

I. SCHOOLS (LISTED IN ORDER OF PRIORITY)

*AP will include  
furniture*

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>ROOMS</u>	<u>AP#</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
PAK MEUT	SG9699	6	LP-2-006	OLD REFUGEES
<del>XIENG KHOU</del>	<del>TH0002</del>	<del>7</del>	<del>LP-3-002</del>	<del>OLD/NEW REFUGEES</del>
BAN THINE (#8)	TG0081	3	<i>LP-3 -</i>	INDIGENOUS/REFS
HOUET KHANG (#5)	TG0283	3	"	" "
BAN KHOK	TH0820	2	"	REFUGEES
BAN MUONG	TH0820	2	"	"
HOUET HIA	TG0785	4	"	OLD REFUGEES
BAN LUANG	TH1312	2	<i>LP-3 -</i>	REFUGEES

II. DUG WELLS

HOUET PHAY	SG9498	2	<i>LP-3 -</i>	REFUGEES
PHONE NGAM	TG0098	1	"	OLD REFUGEES
(FY-72 CARRYOVER)				
LONG NAM KHAN		7	LP-2-042	REFUGEES

III. WATER SYSTEMS

PAK OU	TH0920	1		REFUGEES
#5, XIENG NGEUN	TG0283	1		"
PHONE NGAM	TH1309	1		"
BAN MUONG	TH0820	1		"
(FY-72 CARRYOVER)				
HOUET SENE	TH1209	1	LP-2-034	"

CLEARANCE: LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP *Louis Connick*

cc AC/LP, WILLIAMS, ORA  
LUKEN, ORA; KM



TO: MR ROGER SPROWELS, ORA/FFP  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: LUANG PRABANG PL-480 PROGRAM

4 SEPTEMBER 1972

BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER ALL REFUGEES IN THE L.P. PROJECT AREA WILL BEGIN RECEIVING A 33 1/3 PER CENT PL-480 SUBSTITUTION IN THE FORM OF 50 MT BULGUR, 40 MT NOODLES AND 15 MT CORNMEAL. THE PL-480 FOODSTUFFS WILL IN MOST CASES BE ISSUED IN A COMBINATION OF 3KG BULGUR AND 2 KG NOODLES PER PERSON.

PL-480 FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS IN ALL AREAS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY FOOD PREPARATION DEMONSTRATIONS CARRIED OUT BY FOUR LOCAL REFUGEE GIRLS. THE FOUR GIRLS RECEIVED TRAINING IN VIENTIANE (SESSION #1) AND A REFRESHER TRAINING COURSE IN L.P. ON 22-25 AUGUST CONDUCTED BY RLG/AGR VIENTIANE HOME ECONOMICS STAFF MEMBERS. FOUR TO FIVE DAY TRAINING SESSIONS WILL BE HELD IN EACH OF THE MAJOR REFUGEE AREAS: HOUET PHAY-THIN KEO, LONG NAM KHAN, PAK OU, PAK XEUANG AND MISCELLANEOUS LOCATIONS.

THE PL-480 GIRLS HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED TO DEMONSTRATE SIMPLE RECIPES USING LOCALLY AVAILABLE FOODSTUFFS. THE FOUR GIRLS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE BY ONE OF THE TWO RLG/LP HOME ECONOMICS EXTENSION AGENTS.

THE FIRST PL-480 FOOD PREPARATION DEMONSTRATION WAS HELD AT THONG KHANG (LS355) ON 1 SEPTEMBER. THE TEN WOMEN WHO RECEIVED INSTRUCTION AT THONG KHANG WILL IN TURN TEACH OTHER LOCAL WOMEN.

FOLLOW-UP FOOD PREPARATION SESSIONS WILL BE HELD AT EACH LOCATION IN OCTOBER, WHEN A FIFTY PER CENT SUBSTITUTION (7 KG PL-480 PER PERSON) WILL COME INTO EFFECT.

PL-480 ISSUES TO L.P. DEPENDENTS WILL GRADUALLY BE INTRODUCED DURING THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS AS DEPENDENT NAMELISTS ARE CHECKED AND VERIFIED, A PROCESS WHICH COMMENCED IN AUGUST.

## PL-480 ISSUES TO DATE (JULY-AUGUST):

<u>JULY</u>				
<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PL-480</u>	<u>DATE ISSUE</u>
KIO NYA	TG0783	1942	380 CORNMEAL	7/22
" "	"	"	16 "	7/26
PHA THEUNG AREA	TG0893 TG0693	1046	274 "	7/24
KIOCACHAM	LS04	851	14 NOODLES	7/20
PHOU CHIA	LS25	1841	101 CORNMEAL 10 NOODLES	7/8 7/31
THONG KHANG	LS355	1787	102 CORNMEAL 103 " 14 NOODLES	7/7 7/15 7/27
PHU LUANG TAI	TH0114	682	96 CORNMEAL	7/7
PHU LUANG NEUA	TH0116 "T"	365	14 NOODLES	7/20
PHOU DIN DENG	SG9365	1037	14 NOODLES	7/27
<u>AUGUST</u>				
PHOU KASAK (DEPENDENTS)	TG0380	79	18 CORNMEAL	8/3
KIO NYA	TG0783	1942	243 NOODLES	8/22
PHOU KUONG	TG0893	207	43 CORNMEAL	8/23
HOUEI XIENG	TG0693	680	135 " 12 NOODLES	8/23
KIOCACHAM	LS04	851	12 "	8/16
PHOU CHIA	LS25	1841	14 " 108 CORNMEAL 101 "	8/5 8/12 8/28
PHOU DAM	LS256	577	6 NOODLES	8/27
THONG KHANG	LS355	1787	14 " 103 CORNMEAL 14 NOODLES 9 "	8/5 8/8 8/17 8/22



<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PL-480</u>	<u>DATE ISSUE</u>
PHU LUANG TAI	TH0114	682	14 NOODLES	8/4
			12 "	8/25
PHU LUANG NEUA	TH0116 "NI"	399	12 "	8/14
			14 "	8/18
PHOU DIN DENG	SG9365	1037	93 CORNMEAL	8/7
BAN SENESY (FIRE VICTIMS)	SG8849	354	96 "	8/7

CLEARANCE: LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP



cc: AC/LP  
AD/RA  
KUHN, ORA  
ORA/LP

TO: MR LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

17 SEPTEMBER 1972

FROM: FRITZ BENSON, <sup>340</sup>ORA/LP

SUBJ: AGRICULTURE

- 1) BAN PAK LEUNG (SG9099), BAN CHAN AND BAN CHOM HOUA (IMMEDIATE L.P. AREA) ARE THREE OF THE MAJOR SUPPLIERS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES FOR THE LUANG PRABANG MARKET. ALL THREE VILLAGES, ALTHOUGH OLD AND ESTABLISHED LAO VILLAGES, CULTIVATE ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY HIGHLAND RICE AND, DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE VILLAGES EXPERIENCE ANNUAL DEFICIENCIES IN RICE, RELY ON CASH INCOME FROM PRODUCE SALES TO PURCHASE UP TO THIRTY PERCENT OF THEIR RICE REQUIREMENT.

BAN PAK LEUNG HAS IN THE PAST CULTIVATED COFFEE ON A SEMI-LARGE SCALE AND LOCAL COFFEE PRODUCERS MAY BE ABLE TO OFFER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN ANY TYPE OF USAID AGRICULTURE PROJECT WHICH INVOLVES COFFEE PRODUCTION.

FURTHER INVESTIGATION INTO THE AGRICULTURAL AND MARKETING PRACTICES OF THE THREE VILLAGES WOULD PRESENT A VALUABLE CASE STUDY OF CROP DIVERSIFICATION IN A RICE DEFICIENT AREA WHICH COULD BE APPLIED TO LOCAL REFUGEE CONDITIONS.

- 2) AERIAL OBSERVATION BROUGHT TO MM ATTENTION A POTENTIAL SMALL-SCALE IRRIGATION PROJECT AT BAN DONG HEO (VIC SG8889). SITUATED ON A SMALL PLATEAU, PADDY FIELDS COULD EASILY BE FED DURING THE DRY SEASON BY AN ADJACENT STREAM. INVESTIGATION INTO THE FEASIBILITY



OF A SMALL IRRIGATION PROJECT AT BAN DONG HEO MAY BE WORTHWHILE.

cc. RINNAN, AGR/LP

AD/RA

TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA

22 SEPT 1972

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: KIO NYA REFUGEES

ON 4 AUGUST THE DEPUTY CHAO KHOUENG OF XIENG KHOUANG, JUA PAO, SENT MEMORANDUM NO. 104 TO THE CHAO KHOUENG OF LUANG PRABANG REQUESTING FOUR MONTH'S RICE SUPPORT FOR THE 433 (799 ACCORDING TO CAPT. HERCHAY) XIENG KHOUANG MEO REFUGEES REMAINING AT KIO NYA. CHAO KHOUENG JUA PAO SENT THE MEMORANDUM AT THE REQUEST OF LT. VANG LU, VANG PAO'S REPRESENTATIVE AT KIO NYA.

AROUND MID-AUGUST VANG LU AND A REPRESENTATION OF MEO NAIBANS FORWARDED THE REQUEST TO ORA AND MSW, L.P. IN REPLY THE DELEGATION WAS INFORMED THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PREVIOUS (WRITTEN) AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN GEN. VANG PAO AND THE REFUGEES AND THE PRONOUNCEMENT FROM USAID AND MSW REGARDING THE FATE OF THE XIENG KHOUANG REFUGEES WHO ELECTED TO REMAIN AT KIO NYA RICE SUPPORT WOULD NOT BE FORTHCOMING. MR KHAMPHOU, CHIEF, MSW/LP, FOLLOWED UP THE MEETING WITH A MEMORANDUM TO MSW/VTE ADVISING THAT POLICY WITH REGARDS TO THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO AT KIO NYA HAD NOT CHANGED. MAJOR VANG XANG, MR-II REPRESENTATIVE IN LUANG PRABANG, ATTENDED THE MEETING AND RECOMMENDED THAT VANG LU GO TO VIENTIANE AND DISCUSS THE PROBLEM WITH CAPT. HERCHAY AND GEN. VANG PAO.

ON 11 SEPTEMBER MAJ. VANG XANG SENT A MESSAGE TO VANG PAO STATING THAT THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO AT KIO NYA INDICATED THAT THEY PLANNED TO MOVE BACK TO THEIR OLD HOMES IN THE PHOU FA (LS-102) AREA. UPON RECEIVING THE MESSAGE VANG PAO INSTRUCTED CAPTAIN HERCHAY TO VISIT KIO NYA AND INVESTIGATE THE PROBLEM. HERCHAY VISITED KIO NYA FROM 19 SEPT THROUGH 22 SEPT.

PRELIMINARY REPORTS FROM HERCHAY REGARDING THE KIO NYA SITUATION INDICATES THE FOLLOWING:

THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO, WHO ARE CURRENTLY PLANTING THIS YEAR'S OPIUM CROP, WANT RICE SUPPORT ONLY THROUGH HARVEST (OPIUM)--NO RICE WAS PLANTED BY THE REFUGEES THIS YEAR. AT THAT TIME (FOLLOWING OPIUM HARVEST) THE XIENG KHOUANG REFUGEES SAID THEY PLAN TO MOVE TO THE BAN XON AREA.

SINCE THE MEO'S REQUEST FOR RICE WAS VETOED BY ORA/MSW LAST MONTH, IT APPEARS AS THOUGH THE MEO UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF VANG LU HAVE SPENT A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME PUBLICLY BAD-MOUTHING USAID AND THE RLG, AND CLAIM THAT IF THEIR REQUEST FOR RICE IS NOT HONORED THERE WILL BE TROUBLE.



THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO AT KIO NYA HAVE NOT BEEN WITHOUT FOOD TO EAT. IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE PHA LANG MOU (LS-170) MEO REFUGEES, THE ONLY GROUP RECEIVING RICE SUPPORT AT KIO NYA, ARE SUPPLYING THE XIENG KHOUANG GROUP WITH RICE. FURTHER, THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO ARE REPORTEDLY CONFISCATING RICE ABANDONED BY LAO THEUNG WHO WERE CAPTURED BY THE ENEMY EARLIER THIS YEAR IN THE LONG NAM MING VALLEY WEST OF KIOCACHAM (LS-04).

VANG LU, IT APPEARS, IS PRESENTLY ON THE "OUTS" WITH VANG PAO. IT WAS DISCLOSED THAT VANG LU, WHO CLAIMED TO BE FROM MUONG YOU IN LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, IS IN FACT A XIENG KHOUANG MEO WHO WAS SUCCESSFUL IN HIS ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE THE L.P. KHOUENG OFFICE OF MUONG YOU CITIZENSHIP AND THEREBY PROCURE RICE FOR TEN FAMILIES (RELATIVES). FURTHER, THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO ARE RATHER DISTURBED BY THE FACT THAT VANG LU WAS GIVEN A SUM OF MONEY TO TRAVEL TO VIENTIANE TO APPEAL THEIR CASE REGARDING RICE SUPPORT, A MISSION WHICH HE DID NOT ACCOMPLISH. FINALLY, VANG PAO IS QUITE UPSET ABOUT VANG LU'S DISHONEST AND UNDIPLOMATIC BEHAVIOR.

THE FINAL OUTCOME OF HERCHAY'S MEETING WITH THE XIENG KHOUANG NAIBANS IS NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME AS HE FLEW DIRECTLY FROM KIO NYA TO BAN XON TO CONSULT WITH VANG PAO. THE CASE IS NOT YET CLOSED ACCORDING TO HERCHAY WHO REGARDS THE KIO NYA PROBLEM AS A SERIOUS ONE. HERCHAY WILL RETURN TO KIO NYA NEXT WEEK FOR ANOTHER ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS.

ORA AND MSW LUANG PRABANG IS OF THE OPINION THAT RICE SUPPORT SHOULD NOT BE PROVIDED THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO. THIS GROUP OF REFUGEES HAD THE OPTION TO GO TO THE BAN XON AREA LAST SPRING AND RECEIVE RICE SUPPORT BUT THEY DECLINED IN FAVOR OF REMAINING AT KIO NYA WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT NO FOOD SUPPORT WOULD BE FORTHCOMING. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD AT THAT TIME THAT THE REASON THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO CHOSE TO REMAIN AT KIO NYA WAS TO PLANT OPIUM. THE XIENG KHOUANG REFUGEE PROBLEM HAS BEEN COMPOUNDED DUE TO THE FACT THAT POLITICALLY THE REFUGEES HAVE STEADFASTLY REFUSED TO DEAL THROUGH RLG CHANNELS IN LUANG PRABANG IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE CHOSEN TO REMAIN IN LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, A POINT WHICH HAS CAUSED CONSIDERABLE CONSTERNATION AMONGST LOCAL RLG OFFICIALS. POLITICALLY, THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO ARE USING STAB-IN-THE-BACK TECHNIQUES IN PLAYING ONE SIDE OFF AGAINST THE OTHER FOR THEIR OWN GAIN, AN ACT WHICH WOULD BE CONDONED IF A DECISION WERE TO BE REACHED TO PROVIDE THEM WITH RICE SUPPORT.

THE TWO OTHER GROUPS OF MEO AT KIO NYA, LUANG PRABANG REFUGEES, ARE ALSO AGITATING FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER. THE PHA LANG MOU MEO, THE

ONLY GROUP NOW RECEIVING RICE SUPPORT AT KIO NYA, ARE CURRENTLY TALKING ABOUT MOVING TO PHOU PHA LAY (TG3626) (WITHOUT CONSULTING L.P. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS) FOLLOWING OPIUM HARVEST. THEY CLAIM THEY WILL DEFINITELY MOVE IF USAID AND MSW DECLARES THEM INELIGIBLE FOR CONTINUED RICE SUPPORT FOLLOWING RICE HARVEST BECAUSE, THEY CLAIM, USAID AND THE RLG PROMISED TO FEED THEM FOR TWO YEARS (A FALSEHOOD). ALTHOUGH THE PHA LANG MOU MEO HAD AMPLE TIME TO PLANT A RICE CROP THIS YEAR THEY FAILED TO DO SO.

THE SECOND GROUP OF MEO IN THE KIO NYA AREA NUMBERS SEVERAL HUNDRED PEOPLE AND IS FROM THE MUONG SAI AREA. THESE MEO, WHO ARE KIO NYA'S ORIGINAL INHABITANTS, RECEIVED REFUGEE RICE SUPPORT FOR SEVERAL YEARS. THIS GROUP IS REQUESTING ADDITIONAL RICE SUPPORT BECAUSE THEY CLAIM THAT LAST YEAR'S RICE SUPPLY HAS BEEN DEPLETED.

THE PHA LANG MOU MEO WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR RICE SUPPORT FOLLOWING HARVEST IN NOVEMBER AND THE MUONG SAI MEO, WHO HAVE SHOWN LITTLE INITIATIVE IN MAKING THE ATTEMPT TO ATTAIN SELF SUFFICIENCY, WILL NOT BE ISSUED PARTIAL SUPPORT THROUGH HARVEST.

FCB:9/22/72

cc: AC/LP  
AC/XK  
ORA/LP



TO: MR ROGER G. SPROWLS, ORA/FFP  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: PL-480 ACCEPTANCE REPORT

28 SEPT 1972

DISTRIBUTION OF PL-480 FOODSTUFFS TO MILITARY DEPENDENTS DURING SEPT. PROVED UNSUCCESSFUL. VIRTUALLY ALL DEPENDENTS BELONGING TO ZONE 17/B (646 MEO AND LAO THEUNG) AND BGR-131 (165 FAMILIES IN THE LS-355 AREA)--THE ONLY DEPENDENTS TO RECEIVE PL-480 THUS FAR--REFUSED OUTRIGHT TO ACCEPT CORNMEAL OR NOODLES AS A SUBSTITUTION COMMODITY (33 PERCENT) ON THE GROUNDS THAT AS DEPENDENTS THEY ARE ENTITLED TO RICE ONLY.

THE EVIDENCE SEEMS TO SUGGEST THAT SIMILAR RESISTANCE TO PL-480 COMMODITY ISSUES WILL BE ENCOUNTERED AS THE DEPENDENT PL-480 PROGRAM EXPANDS TO INCLUDE ALL DEPENDENTS IN THE LUANG PRABANG AREA.

THE LOCAL 17/B AND BGR-131 COMMANDERS AND DEPENDENT REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN AWARE OF THE PL-480 SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM FOR TWO MONTHS. ALTHOUGH THE PL-480 FOOD DEMONSTRATION TEAM WAS NOT PRESENT DURING THE DISTRIBUTIONS, MOST OF THE DEPENDENTS ARE FROM REFUGEE VILLAGES THAT HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED INSTRUCTION IN PL-480 FOOD PREPARATION. FEW OF THE NON-REFUGEE DEPENDENTS EXPRESSED ANY INTEREST IN ATTENDING FOOD DEMONSTRATION SESSIONS.

THUS FAR, NO REFUGEES HAVE REFUSED TO ACCEPT PL-480 FOODSTUFFS (AND MOST DEPENDENTS INDICATED THAT IF THEY WERE REFUGEES THEY WOULD GLADLY ACCEPT PL-480). IT HAS BEEN RUMORED, HOWEVER, THAT GROUPS OF REFUGEES FROM THE PAK OU AREA COMPLAINED TO THE CHAO KHOUENG ABOUT AN INCREASED INCIDENCE OF SICKNESS SINCE PL-480 FOODSTUFFS WERE DISTRIBUTED IN THE AREA. THE CHAO KHOUENG SUPPOSEDLY DIRECTED THE LAO PUBLIC HEALTH PROVINCIAL CHIEF TO INVESTIGATE AND REPORT ON THE SITUATION.

cc: AD/RA  
KUHN  
AC/LP

TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: MONTHLY SITREP--SEPTEMBER

30 SEPT 1972

1) LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY

SOME 219 FAMILIES--MOSTLY OLD REFUGEES FROM THE NAM BAC AREA--PRESENTLY LOCATED IN LAND DEFICIENT AREAS NEAR XIENG MENE (TH0002) HAVE REQUESTED PERMISSION FROM THE KHOUENG OFFICE TO MOVE TO A PLACE NEAR BAN PONG DONG (RB1361) FOLLOWING HARVEST. THESE PEOPLE WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR REFUGEE FOOD SUPPORT. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO OBSERVE THESE PEOPLE IN ACTION, HOWEVER, AS THEY INTEND TO ESTABLISH A PIG COOPERATIVE (WITH GOVERNMENT LICENSE) AND CULTIVATE FRUIT TREES, ETC., RELYING ENTIRELY UPON THEIR OWN RESOURCES.

NINETY-ONE MUONG YOU LAO PRESENTLY LOCATED AT LAND DEFICIENT LONG O (TG0793) ARE IN THE PROCESS OF MOVING TO VILLAGE #8 IN THE LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY. THE MUONG YOU PEOPLE ARE OLD REFUGEES, BUT HAVE REQUESTED FOOD SUPPORT THROUGH HARVEST FOLLOWING A POOR RICE CROP LAST YEAR. THEIR CASE, WHICH IS PENDING, MAY RESULT IN PARTIAL PL-480 SUPPORT.

2) LATHAN

ABOUT 14 FAMILIES 73 PEOPLE FROM LATHAN (TH0024) RETURNED HOME ON ABOUT 12 SEPTEMBER. ACCORDING TO MR-I HEADQUARTERS, A GROUP OF LATHAN REFUGEES INITIALLY REQUESTED PERMISSION FROM FAR TO RETURN HOME IN LATE JULY, A REQUEST WHICH WAS VETOED BY FAR FOR SECURITY REASONS. IT IS THEREFORE OF SOME INTEREST THAT THE REFUGEES RETURNED TO LATHAN THIS MONTH, ESPECIALLY SINCE THEIR RETURN WAS SUPPOSEDLY AUTHORIZED BY FAR. LATHAN HAS LONG BEEN A MAJOR CENTER OF TRADE WITH AREAS TO THE NORTH, AND MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO RETURNED ARE SUPPOSEDLY ENGAGED IN COMMERCIAL AND/OR INTELLIGENCE PURSUITS. THE FOURTEEN LATHAN FAMILIES CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THEIR MONTHLY RICE RATION AT KHOC PAP. ACCORDING TO THE BG-122 COMMANDER AT PHOU DAM, POOR SECURITY IN THE AREA ALONG THE MEKONG PRECLUDES VISITING LATHAN.

3) PHOU DAM

AFTER THE FALL OF PHOU DAM FOR ONE NIGHT ON 22 APRIL MOST OF THE SITE'S REFUGEES (ORIGINALLY FROM MUONG SAI--IN PLACE AT PHOU DAM SINCE 1966/67) MOVED TEMPORARILY TO PHOU LUANG NEUA (TH0116) BEFORE RETURNING HOME IN MAY. SINCE RETURNING TO PHOU DAM MANY OF THE MEO REFUGEES HAVE SCATTERED TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS BETWEEN PHOU DAM AND PHOU LUANG NEUA WHERE THEY ARE NOW PLANTING OPIUM. (THE REFUGEES PUT LITTLE EFFORT INTO CULTIVATING HIGHLAND RICE FIELDS THIS YEAR, PROBABLY BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN UNDER THE MISTAKEN IMPRESSION THAT THEY WOULD BE SUPPORTED WITH RICE FOR TEN YEARS).



WHEN THE MSW CHIEF AND I VISITED PHOU DAM RECENTLY WE DISCOVERED THE PHYSICAL PRESENCE OF LESS THAN TWENTY FAMILIES OUT OF A TOTAL POPULATION OF SOME 83 FAMILIES. THE MATTER WAS REFERRED BY MSW TO THE CHAO KHOUENG AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT RICE SUPPORT SHOULD BE SUSPENDED FOR ALL MEO WHO REFUSED TO RETURN TO PHOU DAM. FOR THE TIME BEING, RICE DROPS TO PHOU DAM WILL BE HANDLED OUT OF LUANG PRABANG BY PORTER.

ON ABOUT 17 SEPTEMBER BG-122 MOVED TO PHOU DAM FROM POSITIONS ON THE RIDGE NORTH OF PAK OU. BG-123 WAS REPLACED BY BG-123 WHICH RETURNED FROM TRAINING IN SAVANNAKHET ON 2 SEPTEMBER.

#### 4) NAM OU-NAM XOUANG AREA

THE INCIDENCE OF MILITARY ACTIVITY HAS INCREASED SOMEWHAT IN THE NAM OU-NAM XOUANG AREA DURING AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER LEADING TO SPECULATION THAT CERTAIN POSITIONS IN THE AREA, NAMELY BG-124 AND BG-121 POSITIONS AT OR NEAR TH1221 AND TH1528, RESPECTIVELY, MAY SOON COME UNDER ATTACK. ALL OF THE REPORTED CLASHES HAVE BEEN AT LEAST FIVE KILOMETERS DISTANT FROM THE OUTERMOST REFUGEE VILLAGES: BAN HAT MAT (TH1220) ON THE NAM OU AND BAN PHIA (TH1715) ON THE NAM XOUANG. RECENT VISITS TO VILLAGES IN THE AREA REVEALED SITUATION NORMAL IN ALL LOCATIONS.

#### 5) PHA THEUNG-PAK BAC

ON 13 SEPTEMBER ONE COMPANY EACH FROM BATTALIONS BV-16 AND 17/B LAUNCHED A CLEARING OPERATION THWNRD PAK BAC (TG1686), THE LOCATION OF AN ESTIMATED ONE ENEMY COMPANY. THE OPERATION, WHICH LASTED ABOUT ONE WEEK, HAD NEGATIVE RESULTS WITH NO CONTACT REPORTED AND NO REFUGEES GENERATED.

ONE (POSITIVE ?) RESULT OF THE OPERATION WAS THAT 17/B HAS ESTABLISHED A NEW POSITION AT TG1591. THE TROOP STRENGTH OF 17/B AT PHA THEUNG NOW LISTS 45 MEN AT TG1696 AND 30 MEN AT TG1591.

#### 6) KIOCACHAM

NEW REFUGEES AT KIOCACHAM (CURRENTLY BEING CHECKED OUT) INCLUDE 8 FAMILIES 48 LAO THEUNG ORIGINALLY FROM KIO LANG CHAK (PHOU PHASANINE AREA--TG2070). CAPTURED EARLIER THIS YEAR BY THE ENEMY, THE REFUGEES RECENTLY ESCAPED FROM KENG LUANG (TG2179) AND MADE THEIR WAY TO KIOCACHAM.

BI-17 (PHOU PHASANINE/PHA LANG MOU) LAUNCHED AN OPERATION ON 26 SEPTEMBER NORTH TO THE NAM KHAN RIVER. THE OPERATION WAS TERMINATED ALMOST AS SOON AS IT STARTED, HOWEVER. SUPPOSEDLY, ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE OPERATION WAS TO EFFECT THE MOVEMENT OF CERTAIN GROUPS OF PEOPLE NOW UNDER ENEMY CONTROL IN THE LONG LET (TG2080) AREA.



ALMOST ALL OF THE MEO REFUGEES WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY LOCATED AT THE KIOCACHAM AIRSTRIP HAVE MOVED TO HOUEI PHAT (TGO970). ONE OF THE REASONS FOR THE MOVE IS THAT BI-15 (NEUTRALIST) AT KIOCACHAM HAS BEEN "BORROWING" CONSIDERABLE QUANTITIES OF THE REFUGEES' RICE. KIOCACHAM REFUGEES ARE NOW LOCATED AT HOUEI PHAT, NAM MOK (TG1163--PHASANINE PHA DONG, PHA LANG MOU NOE, THONG SATA) AND PHA NYA KHA (TGO969--PHASANINE NYAI, PHASANINE NAM SANG).

REPORTS INDICATE THAT 3 FAMILIES 19 PEOPLE (TASSENG PHOU FA MEO), ORIGINALLY PART OF THE GROUP THAT MOVED TO BAN XON FROM KIO NYA EARLIER THIS YEAR, RETURNED TO KIOCACHAM FROM BAN XON EARLIER THIS MONTH.

SOME 15 FAMILIES 93 PHA LANG MOU MEO RECENTLY MOVED TO KIOCACHAM FROM KIO NYA BECAUSE THEY WANT TO EAT FREE RICE BEYOND THE NOVEMBER CUT-OFF OF KIO NYA. NEITHER THE TASSENG PHOU FA NOR THE PHA LANG MOU GROUPS WILL RECEIVE RICE SUPPORT AND MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN TO ASSURE THAT NO ADDITIONAL KIO NYA MEO GO TO KIOCACHAM.

LT. VANG LU, LEADER OF THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO AT KIO NYA, WAS SIGHTED AT KIOCACHAM ON 30 SEPTEMBER EN ROUTE TO BAN XON TO APPEAL HIS CASE FOR RICE FOR THE KIO NYA MEO.

#### 7) THONG KHANG PROJECT AREA

ON 6 SEPTEMBER BGR-131 ADC MOVED INTO THE PHOU CHONG (QB9970) AREA AND REPORTED A PATROL-SIZED CLASH SEVERAL DAYS LATER. THERE HAVE SINCE BEEN A SERIES OF CLASHES REPORTED IN THE AREA. A NUMBER OF NEW ADO HAVE BEEN RECRUITED AND THE ADO UNIT PREVIOUSLY POSITIONED AT HOUEI CHIA (RBO579) HAS SCATTERED TO VARIOUS VILLAGES IN THE AREA. TWO COMPANIES OF BGR-131 SOLDIERS HAVE MOVED TO BAN KOK YA (RBO574), A CROSSING POINT FOR THE ENEMY. IF THE ADO AND ADC UNITS ARE NOT ABLE TO CONTAIN THE SITUATION THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT UP TO 600 LAO THEUNG (MOSTLY ADO DEPENDENTS) MAY LEAVE HOUEI CHIA, HOUEI SENG (RBO473) AND PHA SA NYA (RBO477) FOLLOWING HARVEST IN SEARCH FOR A QUIETER AREA. THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED 60 ~~enemy~~ IN THE AREA UNDER THE COMMAND OF A CERTAIN KHAMPHAY. THE SOME 10 NVA ADVISERS WITH THE ENEMY COMPANY ARE LED BY THONGSIN.

#### 8) PHOU HOUA MOUEI (LS-67)

PHOU HOUA MOUEI ADC COMMANDER MAJ. VANG CHING INDICATED THAT SOME 30 LAO THEUNG FAMILIES CURRENTLY UNDER ENEMY CONTROL AT PHOU LOK MAI (VIC QB8395) HAVE INQUIRED INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF ESCAPING TO PHOU HOUA MOUEI DUE TO A SCARCITY OF RICE IN THEIR VILLAGE, PHOU



DOK MAI TAI. THE LAO THEUNG ARE OLD REFUGEES (1957/58) FROM MUONG SAI.

VANG CHING ALSO ASSERTED THAT SOME 100 MEO FAMILIES NOW LOCATED AT PHOU SAM PHAN (QB7085 VIC) WOULD BE WILLING TO MOVE TO THE PHOU HOUA MOUEI AREA IF AN OPERATION WERE LAUNCHED BY THE FRIENDLIES TO CLEAR THE AREA.

AS USUAL, MILITARILY SPEAKING NOTHING HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN THE LS-67 AREA. VANG CHING CLAIMED, HOWEVER, THAT INCREASED ENEMY MOVEMENT SOUTH ALONG THE MEKONG TO THE PHOU FA/PHOU HOUAT AREA SOUTH OF SAYABOURY WAS CAUSING SOME OF THE LOCAL INHABITANTS TO BECOME CONCERNED. VANG CHING MADE NO REFERENCE TO INCREASED ENEMY MOVEMENT FROM PHOU VAYSOM TO THE HOUAI CHIA AREA.

#### 9) PHOU FA

THE SECOND GROUP OF REFUGEES TO FLEE FROM THE PHOU FA AREA (QA8083) THIS YEAR, 6 FAMILIES 49 PEOPLE, ARRIVED IN NAM PHOUAI ON 23 AUGUST. THE FIRST GROUP CONSISTING OF 23 FAMILIES 150 PEOPLE WENT TO NAM PHOUAI IN FEBRUARY. BOTH GROUPS OF REFUGEES ESCAPED FROM BAN PHOU FA WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN LIVING SINCE 1966/67 WHEN THEY MOVED FROM PHOU CHIA (LS-25). THEIR REASONS FOR ESCAPING FROM PHOU FA CENTERED PRIMARILY ON INCREASED TAXATION AND CONTROLS LEVIED BY RESIDENT PL CADRE AND SOLDIERS. IN MID-1971 THE PHOU FA REFUGEES INITIALLY SOUNDED OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF RECEIVING SUPPORT IN THE EVENT THAT THEY SHOULD DEFECT TO THE NLG.

A TOTAL OF SOME FIFTY FAMILIES REMAIN IN THE PHOU FA AREA IN BAN PHOU FA, BAN NAM SENG, BAN NAM TONG AND BAN DIN PHA. THE PHOU FA REFUGEES INDICATED THAT MOST OF THE PEOPLE REMAINING IN THE PHOU FA AREA ARE INDIGENOUS TO THE AREA AND COOPERATE WITH THE ENEMY.

#### 10) SAYABOURY AREA

IN EARLY AUGUST 27 FAMILIES 154 PEOPLE, MEO FROM BAN PHOUNG NHEUANG (SG9887)(RE: 31 AUGUST SITREP), MOVED TO BAN PHONE NGAM AND NAM HIA. THE REFUGEES ALLEGEDLY REQUESTED PERMISSION TO MOVE FROM THE CHAO KHOUENG AND CHAO MUONG OF LUANG PRABANG SHORTLY BEFORE THE FAR OPERATION IN THE NONG KHOUAY AREA BEGAN IN LATE JULY. THE REFUGEES' STATED REASON FOR LEAVING THEIR VILLAGE WAS TO ESCAPE FROM ENEMY HARASSMENT.

THE SUBJECT PHOUNG NHEUANG MEO CLAIM TO BE ORIGINALLY FROM THE PHA LANG MOU-PHOU PHASANINE AREA (1966/67) AND SAID THEY MOVED TO PHONE



NGAM AND NAM HIA RATHER THAN XIENG NGEUN (AS DID THE MAJORITY OF THE REFUGEES WHO MOVED DURING THE NONG KHOUAY OPERATION) IN ORDER TO JOIN THEIR RELATIVES, THE OLD REFUGEES (1960) FROM BAN MEO, KIOCACHAM.

SUPPORT FOR THE PHOUNG NHEUANG REFUGEES IN PRESENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION. IF FOOD SUPPORT IS ISSUED, AS IT PROBABLY WILL BE, IT WILL BE FOR A THREE-MONTH PERIOD AS PER MSW/LP POLICY WHEREBY ONLY THOSE NONG KHOUAY AREA REFUGEES WHO MOVED TO AND REMAIN IN THE LONG NAM KHAN AREA ARE ELIGIBLE FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT THROUGH HARVEST 1973.

SEVERAL GROUPS OF QUASI-REFUGEES--MOSTLY SMALL GROUPS OF PEOPLE FROM SEMI-SECURE VILLAGES WHO HAVE BEEN "MARKED FOR DEATH" BY THE PL-- WERE ACCEPTED IN SAYABOURY FOR THREE MONTHS SUPPORT ONLY. THESE "REFUGEES" INCLUDE 2 FAMILIES 14 PEOPLE FROM BAN KIENG KEO (TASSENG BAN NYAI, MUONG HONG SA), 1 FAMILY 8 PEOPLE FROM BAN PAK PO (NORTH-EAST OF SAYABOURY), 2 FAMILIES 14 PEOPLE FROM BAN HOUET DOK (EAST OF SAYABOURY), AND 2 FAMILIES 15 PEOPLE FROM BAN PHONESAAT (TASSENG PHONESAAT, MUONG PAKLAY).. AS THESE PEOPLE ARE NOT BONIFIED REFUGEES THEY HAVE NOT BEEN INCLUDED IN SAYABOURY REFUGEE TOTALS.

A GROUP OF 5 FAMILIES 35 PEOPLE, ORIGINALLY REFUGEES FROM BAN HAT KHAM (TH1223), TASSENG PAK OU, MUONG PAK OU, MOVED FROM BAN XIENG LECK, MUONG XIENG THONG (LUANG PRABANG) TO NAM PHOUET AND APPLIED FOR REFUGEE SUPPORT. THEIR REQUEST WAS DECLINED AS THEY ARE NOT LEGITIMATE REFUGEES.

#### 11) PAK NEUN

A MEMORANDUM WAS WRITTEN ON 9 SEPTEMBER BY THE CHAO MUONG OF MUONG NAME TO MSW/LP REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FOR 103 FAMILIES 351 PEOPLE, REFUGEES THIS YEAR FROM MUONG KASSY, CURRENTLY LOCATED IN THE PAK NEUN (QB9830) AREA. THE REFUGEES ARE FROM THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES:

<u>ORIGINAL VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>PRESENT VILLAGE</u>
BAN HOUET SOU	BAN CHIENG	BAN SAVALANGSY
BAN PHOUNG LEK	"	BAN SOUANMAWN
BAN CHIENG	"	BAN TANG XANG
BAN NAM TOUN	"	"
BAN PHOU SOK	"	BAN HOUET SAKAY
HOUET LEP	NAMONE	BAN TANG XANG
BAN HOUET LAN	"	BAN HOUET PHA

THE SITUATION OF THESE PEOPLE WILL BE INVESTIGATED WITH RESPECT TO CIRCUMSTANCES OF DISPLACEMENT, SITUATION IN OLD VILLAGE (E.G., BAN CHIENG--TG0818--IS NOW SECURE AND PHOUNG LEK REFUGEES PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED REFUGEE ASSISTANCE IN A VILLAGE NEAR BAN CHIENG), FUTURE INTENTIONS AND PRESENT SITUATION. MOST OF THE REFUGEES ARE CURRENTLY LOCATED IN VILLAGES WITHIN THE PL SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, AND ANY TYPE



OF COMMODITY SUPPORT FOR THEM WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED IN THIS CONTEXT.

SOURCES AT BAN SENESY (SG8848) CLAIM THAT THE KASSY REFUGEES WERE INTERCEPTED BY THE ENEMY AS THEY WERE MOVING IN SEARCH OF A SAFE-HAVEN AREA FOLLOWING THE FALL OF MUONG KASSY EARLIER THIS YEAR AND ARE PRESENTLY BEING HELD CAPTIVE BY THE PL. ABOUT 30 OF THE REFUGEES REPORTEDLY RECENTLY ESCAPED TO MUONG KASSY VIA SENESY.

12) PHOU NGEUI (LS-258)

A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF LUANG PRABANG MEO REFUGEES HAVE MOVED THIS YEAR TO THE "PROMISED LAND" AT PHOU NGEUI AND ARE BEGINNING TO REGRET HAVING DONE SO BECAUSE THEY DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH RICE TO EAT. WITHOUT EXCEPTION, THE MEO MOVED WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE LUANG PRABANG KHOUENG OFFICE FROM AREAS WHERE THEY WERE RECEIVING RICE SUPPORT. THE LUANG PRABANG MEO ARE PRESENTLY LOCATED IN THE PHOU NGEUI AREA AS LISTED BELOW:

<u>ORIGINAL LOCATION</u>	<u>PRESENT LOCATION</u>
PHA THEUNG	PHOU NGEUI TAI
PHOU CHIA	"
KIO NYA/PHA THEUNG (PAKSANE)	PHA NENG (PHOU LEK)

THERE IS NOW A TOTAL OF NEARLY 500 LUANG PRABANG MEO AT PHOU NGEUI.

MILITARILY SPEAKING, PHOU NGEUI IS ANOTHER PHOU HOUA MOUEI/PHOU PHA THEUNG/PHOU CHIA EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT THE PHOU NGEUI COMMAND HAS RECENTLY EXPANDED IN SIZE TO INCLUDE ONE COLONEL, ONE MAJOR AND FIVE CAPTAINS. OSTENSIBLY, THE FUNCTION OF THE PHOU NGEUI GARRISON IS TO CONTROL THE ACTIVITIES OF SEVENTY PERCENT OF THE AREA'S MEO WHO SUPPOSEDLY HAVE A TENDENCY TO SIDE WITH THE ENEMY, AND TO CONTROL THE FLOW OF ENEMY SUPPLIES SOUTHWARD ALONG THE LEFT BANK OF THE MEKONG TO THE PHOU NONG LUANG (LS-322) AREA.

ENEMY UNITS OPERATING IN THE AREA ARE ALLEGEDLY FROM THE PAKLAY/PHOU MIENG (NEAR LS-322) AREA.

13) PHOU PHA KHOUAY

IN MID-1971 A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE MEO CHAO FA MOVEMENT FORMED IN THE PHOU PHA KHOUAY (QA5225) AREA AND CENTERED AROUND A MEO WHO SUPPOSEDLY

POSSESSED THE SUPERNATURAL AND HEALING POWERS OF THE CHAO FA. OCCASIONAL REVIVALS OF THE MEO CHAO FA MOVEMENT HAVE OCCURRED OVER THE YEARS PRIMARILY IN THE SAM NEUA/XIENG KHOUANG AREA ALTHOUGH SCATTERED INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED AS FAR AFIELD AS THE BAN MUONG (LS-177) AREA. THE MOVEMENT GENERALLY CENTERS AROUND A PERSON PROCLAIMING SUPERNATURAL POWERS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF THE LAO THEUNG CHOUANG, AND HAS IN RECENT YEARS BEE INFILTRATED BY THE NVA (AS WAS THE CHOUANG MOVEMENT).

RECENTLY A 40-YEAR OLD PHOU PHA KHOUAY MEO BY THE NAME OF SHONG SAO TAO ATTAINED PROMINENCE AS A HEALER OF ALL POSSIBLE AILMENTS AND HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE FROM ALL AREAS OF LAOS ARE REPORTEDLY STREAMING TO PHOU PHA KHOUAY FOR THE CURE (AN INJECTION OF SECRET MEDICINE IN THE NECK). SHONG SAO TAO IS ORIGINALLY FROM BAN PHOU LAK (TG1596) ON PHOU PHA THEUNG (THE ORIGINAL LOCATION OF MANY OF THE PHOU PHA KHOUAY MEO) AND WAS A LOCAL ADO SOLDIER UNTIL 1968 WHEN HE DESERTED. EVEN AT THAT TIME (PRIOR TO 1968) SHONG SAO TAO IS REPUTED TO HAVE POSSESSED SUPERNATURAL HEALING POWERS AND REPORTEDLY EVEN EXTRACTED A BULLET (USING MAGIC) FROM GEN. WANG PAO'S SHOULDER. THE QUESTION WHICH AS YET REMAINS UNANSWERED IS WHETHER OR NOT SHONG SAO TAO WAS THE 1971 CHAO FA.

9/30/72

cc: AC/LP  
KUHN  
ORA/LP



TO: MR LOUIS CONNICK, AC/IP

20 OCTOBER 1972

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/IP

SUBJ: REFUGEE AGRICULTURE

REF: ME 1 AUGUST MEMO TO RINNAN--REFUGEE AGRICULTURE  
MY 2 SEPT. MEMO TO MACQUEEN--POST-HARVEST FOOD REQUIREMENTS

EARLIER INDICATIONS THAT THIS YEAR'S HIGHLAND RICE CROP WOULD IN MOST CASES BE ALMOST A TOTAL FAILURE HAVE PROVEN CORRECT IN MANY AREAS. IN CONSEQUENCE, IT IS NOT UNLIKELY THAT A NUMBER OF REFUGEE GROUPS WHO WOULD NOT NORMALLY BE ENTITLED TO ADDITIONAL RICE SUPPORT FOLLOWING HARVEST MAY STRONGLY LOBBY FOR CONTINUED RICE ASSISTANCE BEGINNING EARLY NEXT YEAR.

UNDERLYING THIS DILEMMA IS THE STRONG INTEREST OF REFUGEES, NAIBANS, TASSENGS, CHAO MUONGS AND KHOUENG OFFICIALS IN SEEKING REALISTIC WAYS TO UPGRADE AND EXPAND THE LOCAL AGRICULTURE ECONOMY TO THE EXTENT THAT THE REFUGEES WOULD HAVE AN ECONOMIC BUFFER (VALUED AT LEAST AT 20,000 KIP) TO FALL BACK UPON DURING THE MONTHS FOLLOWING A BAD HARVEST. SUCH A BUFFER WOULD ENABLE REFUGEES TO PURCHASE AT LEAST A SIX MONTH'S SUPPLY OF RICE.

THIS INTEREST HAS BEEN EVIDENT IN MOST REFUGEE LOCATIONS THAT I HAVE RECENTLY VISITED, AND HAS BEEN BROUGHT UP TIME AND AGAIN IN RECENT KHOUENG MEETINGS. THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE REPRESENTATIVE IN LUANG PRABANG IS KEENLY INTERESTED IN PROMOTING AGRICULTURE PROJECTS IN LOCAL REFUGEE AREAS, AND REGARDS SUCH ACTIVITY AS BEING HIGH ON HIS LIST OF PRIORITIES FOR DRY-SEASON REFUGEE PROJECTS. OFFICIAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE--PRIMARILY FOR VILLAGES THAT WOULD NOT NORMALLY BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONTINUED RICE ASSISTANCE--HAVE BEEN RECENTLY RECEIVED IN THE ORA OFFICE.

VIS-A-VIS THE PROBLEM OF POST-HARVEST RICE SUPPORT TO REFUGEES THE AGRICULTURE PROBLEM IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE. FAILURE TO IMMEDIATELY INITIATE A SOUND AND REALISTIC REFUGEE AGRICULTURE PROGRAM THAT COMMANDS SHORT-TERM RESULTS, REGARDLESS OF SIZE, WILL NEGATE IMPORTANT EFFORTS CURRENTLY BEING CARRIED OUT BY ORA AND MSW.

ORA/LP IS PREPARED TO ASSIST USAID/LP AGRICULTURE IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE--ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELD OF PLANNING--TO ASSURE THAT TIMELY ACTION IS TAKEN REGARDING THE REFUGEE AGRICULTURE PROBLEM.

20/10/72

cc. AD/RA, AGR/LP, ORA/LP



26 OCTOBER 1972

SUBJ: SEQUENCE OF EVENTS: 14-26 OCTOBER

ON 14 OCTOBER BG-121 LAUNCHED AN OPERATION TO CLEAR THE AREA WITHIN A THREE KM. RADIUS NORTH AND EAST OF THE GM-11/BG-121 CP AT PHOU SA (TH-1528). ON THE SAME DAY BG-123 LAUNCHED A SWEEPING OPERATION FROM THE BATTALION CP AT TH-0823 TO AN AREA ABOUT THREE KM TO THE NORTH. IN THE GM-12 SECTOR BG-125 TROOPS MOVED FROM THE BATTALION CP AT TH-1822 TO RETAKE A SUSPECTED ENEMY STRONGHOLD AT HILL #712 (TH-2222). TO SUPPORT THE OPERATION TWO 105mm HOWITZERS WERE POSITIONED AT PHOU SA. THERE WERE TWO 105mm GUNS ALREADY POSITIONED AT PHOU SOY.

ON 19 OCTOBER BG-122 (PHOU DAM) DEPARTED FOR TRAINING IN SAVANNAKHET; BG-126 (PAK XEUANG) DEPARTED ON TH 21st FOR TRAINING AT NAM PONG DAM.

DURING THE NIGHT OF 22-23 OCTOBER ALL GM-12 POSITIONS CAME UNDER ATTACK. TIC WAS REPORTED AT 0200 HRS AT THE GM-12 CP AT TH-1618. WHILE THE INITIAL CONTACT WAS RELATIVELY SHORT, THE ENEMY ATTACKED THE POSITION A SECOND TIME BEGINNING AT 0600 HRS AND LASTING MOST OF THE DAY. ALSO AT 0200 HRS THE BG-125 CP AND ~~AXXOMADXXPOSITIONXXXX~~ RECEIVED INCOMING. BG-125 POSITIONS AT HILL #548 (TH2021) AND HILL #653 (TH2020) WERE UNTOUCHED. AT 0355 HRS THE GM-11 CP AT PHOU SA RECEIVED 20 RDS OF DK82 FIRE.

HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUED MOST OF THE DAY ~~22X~~ (23 OCT) AT THE GM-12 POSITION, AND NUMEROUS AIR STRIKES WERE PLACED ON THE POSITIONS PERIMETER AS WELL AS THE AREA TO THE NORTH AS FAR AS PHOU DOK MAI (TH1723) AND PHA THEUNG (TH1924). THE ENEMY (BELIEVED TO BE PRIMARILY NVA) APPARENTLY MOVED INTO THE PHOU SOY AREA VIA PHA THEUNG AND PHOU DOK MAI.



~~THE~~ DURING THE DAY OF THE 23rd THE FIRST REFUGEES TO FLEE FROM THE AREA MOVED FROM BAN LUM (TH1715) AND BAN PHONE SAVANG (TH1614) TO BAN PAK PA (TH1509).

DURING THE NIGHT OF 23-24 OCTOBER ALL POSITIONS IN THE GM-12 AREA BETWEEN THE NAM XEUANG AND THE NAM OU WERE ATTACKED AND THE FRIENDLIES WITHDREW. IN CONSEQUENCE, ALL VILLAGERS ALONG THE NAM XEUANG RIVER INCLUDING BAN PAKXEUANG MOVED SOUTH TOWARD LP. VILLAGERS AT XANG HAI (TH1114), KHONE HOUNG (VIC TH1016) AND HAT MAT (TH1220) WERE CAPTURED BY THE ENEMY ~~XX~~ WHEN THE VILLAGES WERE OCCUPIED BETWEEN 0800 AND 1000 HRS ON THE 24th. ~~XX~~ THE ENEMY PROCEEDED TO BLOCKADE THE MEKONG AT XANG HAI, ALTHOUGH MANY OF THE XANG HAI REFUGEES MANAGED TO ESCAPE TO THINE HONG (TH0915). KHONE HOUNG REFUGEES HAVE NOT BEEN HEARD FROM. HAT MAT VILLAGERS ESCAPED BY BOAT WHEN THE ENEMY SQUAD OCCUPYING THE VILLAGE OPENED FIRE ON A HELICOPTER.

BY LATE AFTERNOON OF THE 24th, WHILE BG-124 AND BG-125 WERE REGROUPING, BV-17 BEGAN AN ATTEMPT TO RETAKE THE HIGH GROUND ABOVE XANG HAI, BUT MET HEAVY RESISTENCE. A FAR MIXED UNIT MOVED OUT IN THE VICINITY OF TH-1513, AND A FAR COMMANDO COMPANY MOVED INTO AN OLD BG-124 POSITION AT TH1221. BG-122, WHICH WAS AIRLIFTED TO LP FROM SAVANNAKHET ON THE 24th, WAS BEING DEPLOYED AT PAKXEUANG. THE STRATEGY WAS TO ESTABLISH A DEFENSIVE LINE BETWEEN XANG HAI AND BAN THIN (TH1014).

DURING THE NIGHT OF THE 24th-25th PAKXEUANG ~~XXX~~ RECEIVED 25 RDS OF 82mm MORTAR FIRE FROM TH1611. DURING THE BARRAGE, CAPT. KHAMLA, BG-122 COMMANDER WAS KILLED. A TOTAL OF 4 SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AND 14 WOUNDED. THE PAK XEUANG DISPENSARY WAS DESTROYED DURING THE ATTACK. ~~X~~ THE BV16 CP NEAR BAN KOK VANE ~~XX~~ (TH1608) ALSO RECEIVED INCOMING FIRE. ON THE 25th ALL VILLAGES IN THE KOK VANE AREA--KOK VANE NEUA, KOK VANE TAI, NA TANE, NA KHI YEN, THA PO, AND BO HE-- MOVED TO LUANG PRABANG. APPARENTLY BAN LONG LANH, HOUET PO AND HOUET KATOM --VILLAGES LOCATED NORTH OF KOK VANE--WERE CUT OFF BY THE ENEMY.

FIGHTING CONTINUED DURING THE DAY OF THE 25th, WITH THE EMENY OCCUPYING THE HILL TO THE EAST OF THE KING'S FARM. MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES FROM THE PAK OU-PAK XEUANG-KOK VANE SECTORS MOVED OVERLAND AND BY BOAT DURING THE DAY TO LP AND TO VILLAGES BETWEEN LP AND PAK XEUANG.

BY THE TIME THE MOVEMENT ENDS, PROBABLY SOMETIME TODAY, AS MANY AS 8000-9000 REFUGEES (MOST OF WHOM ARE CURRENTLY RECEIVING FOOD SUPPORT) WILL HAVE BEEN DISPLACED. MOST OF THE REFUGEES

ARE MOVING IN WITH RELATIVES, AND NO IMMEDIATE HOUSING PROBLEM IS EXPECTED. A CERTAIN NUMBER OF REFUGEES ARE BUILDING TEMPORARY SHELTERS IN THE VICINITY OF VILLAGES LOCATED ON THE BANKS OF THE MEKONG. SCHOOLS WILL NOT BE UTILIZED AS TEMPORARY HOUSING FACILITIES.

ACCURATE LISTS OF REFUGEES ~~IN~~ CURRENTLY BEING FORMULATED WILL BE AVAILABLE TODAY, AND TWO WEEK'S FOOD ASSISTANCE WILL BE ISSUED TOMORROW--AT CENTRAL LOCATIONS IN LUANG PRABANG. REFUGEES WILL BE ISSUED 5 kg RICE AND 2½ KG NOODLES. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IS BEING TAKEN CARE OF BY PHD.

COMMODITY SUPPORT WILL BE ISSUED ~~TO~~ ONLY TO THOSE REFUGEES WHO FLED UNDER DURESS--KHONE HOUNG, HAT MAT, PAK OU, XANG HAI AND KHOC NGEUAK.-- OTHER REFUGEES WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR COMMODITY SUPPORT IF IT BECOMES OBVIOUS THAT THEY CANNOT SOON RETURN HOME.

BELOW IS A LIST OF ALL REFUGEES:

<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIGINAL VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOP</u>	<u>PRESENT LOCATION</u>
THINE HONG	THIN HONG	61	326	DONE MAY, MG KHAM THA WAT NONG
	HOUEI MAK	19	82	MG KHAM (THO506)
	HOUEI PENE	9	40	EN ROUTE
	PHA KHOUANG	23	113	"
	NONG KHAM	8	58	B. DONE MAY (THO911)
	HAT KHAM	38	224	"
XANG HAI	--	56	283	WAT THAT (LP)
KHONE KEENE	PHA THEUNG	28	162	KOK PHAP (THO103)
	HAT KHO	15	93	EN ROUTE
	KHONE KHAM	9	54	"
	HOUEI KHO	5	19	" MANY GO TO
	HOUEI CHARK	3	16	" BAN SOUAN
	MOK HO	33	168	" (VIC B. DONE)
HOUEI KHO	HOUEI KHO	26	108	EN ROUTE
	VANG LE	26	140	"
	HOUEI HO	14	69	"
BAN FAI	BAN FAI	26	173	BAN SOUAN
	PAK CHEK	12	82	"
	HOUEI CHIM	11	59	"
KHOC NGEUAK	--	16	69	BAN SOUAN
KHONE HOUNG	--	18	107	(CAPTURED ?)
HAT MAT	--	233	175	WAT THAT
PAK OU	PAK OU	48	290	EN ROUTE
	SENE KEO PONG	11	44	(DEFECT ?)
	LASAPONG	22	133	"



<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIGINAL VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOP</u>	<u>PRESENT LOCATION</u>
<del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>				
PAK OU	HOUEI KHA NYAI YAI	36	122	"
	H. KHA NYAI NOI	22	86	"
	THA KHOUANG	11	44	"
	MOK KOK	9	48	"
	HOUEI PAO	9	38	"
	MOK LEK	10	55	"
	KEO TAY	9	37	"
	MOK PLAY	31	146	"
BAN MUONG	--	23	142	EN ROUTE
HOUEI YO	HOUEI YO LAO	30	176	LOCATION UNKNOWN
	NA KANG	13	69	"
	HOUEI SEUNG	13	76	"
	HOUEI ANG	10	45	"
	HOUEI YO NAI	8	41	"
	PHA THAO	7	45	"
	HOUEI PONG	21	87	"
	THAM THEUNG	3	17	"
KHOC KHAM	--	10	51	EN ROUTE
BAN KHOC	--	23	129	"
KHOC VANE TAI	--	19	119	houa NA KANG/
KHOC BANE NEUA	--	18	109	TAO MOU
NATANE	--	41	207	"
NA KHI YEN	--	21	103	"
THA PO	--	17	5	"
PO HE	--	34	163	"
LONG LANH	--Q	24	80	(CAPTURED ?)
HOUEI PO	--	22	89	"
HOUEI KATOM	66	9	33	"
PAK XEUANG	--	63	323	BAN DONE/LP
PAK PA	--	20	101	"
KHOC KHI NGEUA	66	30	139	IN PLACE
BAN THIN	--	41	191	BAN DONE
BAN SIO	--	14	79	MUONG KHAM
DONE KHOUN	--	19	124	?
BAN LUANG	--	23	108	KOK PAP
PHONE SAVANG	6-	37	200	"
PHONE NGAM	--	23	113	BAN DONE
BAN PHIA	--	17	81	"
BAN LUM	--	16	63	?
KEO LUANG	--	27	147	KOK PAP
BAN LE	--	23	183	BAN DONE
DONE CHO	--	45	246	"
PHA O	--	41	211	"
	HAT KHO	38	213	"
HOUEI SENE	--	6	27	"
				MOVE SAME TIM
				PAKSEUANG

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UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL REFUGEES LISTED ABOVE HAVE EITHER MOVED OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF MOVING. FIGURES (POPULATION) LISTED REPRESENT TOTAL REFUGEES WHO RECEIVED FOOD SUPPORT IN SEPTEMBER, AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FOLLOWING THE CURRENT MOVE. PRESENT LOCATIONS AND PRESENT NUMBERS WILL BE FORWARDED IN A COUPLE OF DAYS.

THE MILITARY SITUATION IS STILL FLUID ALTHOUGH BOTH SIDES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HOLD EACH OTHER OFF IN THE PAKXEUANG AREA. IT IS FEARED THAT THE ENEMY MAY ATTEMPT TO CIRCUMVENT THE PAKXENANG BARRICADE AND SENAK IN THE BACK DOOR ~~XXXXX~~ VIA XIENG LOM (TG1190).

FCB

cc. AC/lp  
ORA/lp



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: STATUS OF DEPENDENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

30 OCTOBER 1972

1) MR-I DEPENDENTS

PHASE II OF THE MR-I DEPENDENT PROGRAM--STANDARDIZATION OF DEPENDENT LISTS BASED ON UNIT PAYROLLS--IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY AND WILL BE COMPLETED NEXT MONTH. HENCEFORTH, DEPENDENT LISTS WILL CORRESPOND DIRECTLY WITH THE PAYROLL. CHANGES IN THE LATTER WILL BE REPORTED MONTHLY BY EACH UNIT'S REPRESENTATIVE, VERIFIED AGAINST THAT MONTH'S PAYROLL, AND APPROPRIATE CHANGES MADE IN THE DEPENDENT LISTS.

PHASE III--ISSUANCE OF I.D. CARDS--WILL TAKE PLACE IN DECEMBER/ JANUARY. AT THAT TIME THE PL-480 SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM (33 PER CENT AT THE OUTSET) WILL BE INITIATED.

2) MR-II DEPENDENTS

I.D. CARDS WERE ISSUED TO ALL MR-II DEPENDENTS IN OCTOBER. ATTEMPTS ARE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY TO PROCURE FROM LONG THIENG COPIES OF THE UNIT PAYROLLS. A SYSTEM WHEREBY TROOP STRENGTH CHANGES IS REPORTED ON A REGULAR BASIS HAS NOT YET BEEN WORKED OUT.

THE ONLY SOLUTION TO THE MR-II DEPENDENT PROBLEM WOULD BE TO ESTABLISH A LIAISON CAPABILITY WITH LONG THIENG, POSSIBLY (WITH AC/XK CONCURRENCE) UTILIZING AN AC/XK LOCAL STAFF MEMBER ONE OR TWO DAYS A MONTH.

PL-480 FOOD WILL BE ISSUED TO MR-II DEPENDENTS IN DECEMBER .

CLEARANCE: LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP                     

cc. AC/LP  
ORA/LP

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: REFUGEE SITREP--OCTOBER

31 OCT 1972

1) CURRENT REFUGEE MOVEMENTS

FOR DETAILS REGARDING THE CURRENT ENEMY OFFENSIVE IN THE PAK OU AND PAK XEUANG AREAS AND THE CONCURRENT DISPLACEMENT OF THE AREA'S POPULATION SEE MY SITREPS DATED 26 OCTOBER AND 31 OCTOBER.

2) PAK OU AREA

LEU REFUGEES ORIGINALLY (1971) FROM LATHAHAE (TH2033) AND PAK CHEK (TH2235) MOVED IN EARLY SEPTEMBER FROM VILLAGES WHERE THEY HAD RELOCATED--PHIC NOI (TH1002) AND NOUNSAVATH (TH0700), RESPECTIVELY-- TO PAK OU. TOTALLING 64 FAMILIES 332 PEOPLE (LATHAHAE, 52/250; PAK CHEK, 12/82), THE MOVE FROM UNPRODUCTIVE LAND AREAS TO PAK OU (THE REFUGEES STATED THAT THEY INTEND TO GROW HIGHLAND RICE NEXT YEAR UPSTREAM ALONG THE NAM OU RIVER) WAS AUTHORIZED BY KHOUENG OFFICIALS, AND ONE MONTH TRANSITIONAL FOOD SUPPORT WAS REQUESTED BY THE KHOUENG OFFICE AND PL-480 NOODLES WERE ISSUED. SEVERAL HUNDRED PAK CHEK REFUGEES CONTINUE TO REMAIN AT NOUNSAVATH (FOOD SUPPORT TO THE SUBJECT REFUGEES WAS DISCONTINUED LAST YEAR).

3) XIENG NGEUN AREA

THREE VILLAGES--HOUEI SATAN, HAT KANG AND KHONE WAI--LOCATED NORTH OF THE NAM KHAN RIVER BETWEEN XIENG NGEUN AND PAK BAC MOVED TO DONE MO (TG0787) ON 27 OCTOBER IN THE WAKE OF ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THE AREA. THE SITUATION OF THESE REFUGEES IS CURRENTLY BEING INVESTIGATED. THAT THERE HAS BEEN INCREASED ENEMY MOVEMENT IN THE XIENG NGEUN AREA AND THAT ENEMY TEAMS HAVE MADE RECON MISSIONS UP TO XIENG NGEUN HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED.

4) KIO NYA

ACCORDING TO CAPT. HERCHAY, GEN. VANG PAO SENT A LETTER TO KEO VIPAKONE REQUESTING THAT NO RICE BE ISSUED TO THE XIENG KHOUANG MEO AT KIO NYA. KEO, IN TURN, REPORTEDLY DRAFTED A MEMORANDUM INSTRUCTING MSW LUANG PRABANG NOT TO ISSUE RICE TO THIS GROUP OF REFUGEES. IT APPEARS AS THOUGH THE PROBLEM OF ADDITIONAL FOOD SUPPORT TO THE KIO NYA MEO HAS WORN ITSELF OUT IN THAT THE CONCERNED MEO HAVE NOT STOPPED BY THE OFFICE FOR SOME TIME.

5) MUONG NANE ROAD

ON 12 OCTOBER ABOUT 15-20 ENEMY MOVED SOUTH ACROSS THE MUONG NANE ROAD IN THE VICINITY OF THE HOUEI KACHAM (VIC SG9373) REPORTEDLY EN ROUTE TO THE PHA NGAM AREA SOUTH OF KIOCACHAM. ON 20 OCTOBER



AT 0900 HOURS THE ENEMY AMBUSHED A TAXI IN THE SAME AREA AS IT WAS EN ROUTE TO BAN DANE (SG8667) KILLING FOUR PEOPLE AND WOUNDING SEVERAL OTHERS. IN RESPONSE, BGR-131 TROOPS (OF WHICH ONE SQUAD IS LOCATED AT HOUEI SATEP--SG8970) UNDERTOOK A "CLEARING" OPERATION IN THE AREA. NO CONTACT WAS REPORTED. THE INCIDENT HAD NO APPARENT EFFECT ON REFUGEES LIVING ALONG THE ROAD.

6) PHOU NONG KHOUAY AREA (SG9688) REFUGEES

*HAS BEEN RELOCATED*

FOOD SUPPORT TO MOST OF THE PHOU NONG KHOUAY REFUGEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE THREE-MONTH LIMIT PLACED ON THOSE REFUGEES WHO ELECTED NOT TO RELOCATE IN THE LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY. BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER, FOOD SUPPORT WILL BE ISSUED ONLY TO 20 FAMILIES 113 PEOPLE WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO REMAIN IN THE RELOCATION AREA:

LONG SA	- 14/78
HOUEI HIN YOM	- 2/13
NONG KHOUAY (LT)	- 3/17
HOUEI TALONG	- 1/5

PREVIOUSLY RECEIVING FOOD AS INSTANCE WERE THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

<u>XIENG NGUEN</u>	<del>XXXXXX</del>
PHOUNG NHEUANG	- 22/147
LONG SA	- 18/112
HOUEI HIN YOM	- 8/51
NONG KHOUAY	- 7/30
HOUEI TALONG	- 4/24
HOUEI PHENG	- 49/293
NONG KHOUAY (LT)	- 8/39
HOUEI LUANG	- 12/59
HOUEI THOUN	- 18/118
<u>BAN XOM</u>	
HOUA PHOU	- 23/118
<u>XIENG MOUAK</u>	
BOUAM MEUT	- 38/241
PHOU XANG	- 30/157

7) PHOU DIN DENG (SG9365)

PHOU DIN DENG MEO REFUGEES HAVE CONSTRUCTED A TWO-ROOM BAMBOO SCHOOL TO ACCOMMODATE THE AREAS 50+ STUDENTS. THE SCHOOL HAS BEEN STAFFED BY ONE RLG TEACHER AND ONE MILITARY TEACHER. REFUGEE SCHOOL BOOKS AND SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN FURNISHED.

8) KIOCACHAM-PHOU CHIA

DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER ABOUT TWO COMPANIES OF PL WERE SIGHTED IN THE PHA NGAM AREA SOUTH OF KIOCACHAM BY BG-131 SOLDIERS WHO ACCOMPANIED AREA REFUGEES RETURNING TO THEIR HOMES FROM THONG KHANG (LS355) FOR THE PURPOSE OF INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITY OF SALVAGING RICE LEFT BEHIND DURING THEIR HURRIED DEPARTURE LAST SPRING. THE PL UNIT IS SUPPOSEDLY A NEWLY-FORMED BATTALION DESIGNATED BATTALION #312. THE TWO COMPANIES REPORTEDLY TRANSITED THE AREA NORTH OF PHOU CHIA (LS25) EN ROUTE TO THE PAK NEUN (QB9830) AREA WHERE THEY ARE NOW SUPPOSEDLY IN THE PROCESS OF RECRUITING NEW TROOPS.

RECENTLY, SEVEN PL ENTERED BAN SENESY (SG8843) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFISCATING RICE AND INFORMED THE VILLAGERS THAT THE ENEMY (PRESUMABLY FROM THE PAK NEUN SECTOR) INTENDS TO CAPTURE THE ENTIRE AREA WHICH ENCOMPASSES MUONG NANE (LS254), THONG KHANG (LS355) AND NA MUONG (SG8762).

9) PAK NEUN (QB9830)

ON SITE INVESTIGATION OF THE MUONG KAS BY REFUGEES IN THE PAK NEUN AREA (RE 30 SEPT SITREP) REVEALED THAT ALTHOUGH NONE OF THE REFUGEES PLANTED RICE THIS YEAR THEY HAVE HIRED THEMSELVES OUT TO VILLAGERS IN THE AREA AS DAY LABORERS IN RETURN FOR RICE AND/OR A SMALL CASH ALLOWANCE. THE REFUGEES CITED BLANKETS, ETC. AS BEING THEIR BASIC NEED, AND IT IS LIKELY THAT (IF THE SITUATION IN THE AREA PERMITS) MSW/ORA WILL DISTRIBUTE COMMODITIES TO THEM IN THE NEAR FUTURE. ALL OF THE VILLAGES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF HOU EI SOU WHICH IS LOCATED NEAR PAK BO (QB9615) ARE SITUATED WITHIN A THREE KM RADIUS OF PAK NEUN.

10) MUONG MET (LS158)

THE CHAO MUONG OF MUONG MET HAS INDICATED THAT SOME 60 FAMILIES 300 PEOPLE NOW LOCATED ON THE BANK OF THE MEKONG RIVER VIC RAO080 HAVE REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN REESTABLISHING THEMSELVES IN THEIR ORIGINAL VILLAGES (VIS QA9860)--BAN SISAAT, BAN NA NYAM AND NAM PHU NOI--WHICH THEY ABANDONED IN 1971 FOLLOWING INCREASED ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THE AREA.

11) PHOU HOUA MOUEI (LS67)

ON 10 OCTOBER AT 2100 HOURS TWENTY ENEMY REPORTEDLY ATTACKED A LS67 ADO POSITION AT BAN HOU EI NYANG (QB879-674). SIX CIVILIAN/ MILITARY KIA AND SIX WIA WERE SUSTAINED BEFORE THE ENEMY WITHDREW. MAJ. VANG CHING, AREA COMMANDER, IS CONCERNED THAT INCREASED



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ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THE AREA MAY PRECIPITATE THE MOVEMENT OF GROUPS OF THE REGIONS SOME 3,000 INHABITANTS AND PLANS TO FORWARD TO MR-I A 3-POINT PLAN OF ACTION WHICH INCLUDES:

- 1) RECRUITING AND POSITIONING A NEW ADC COMPANY AT HOUEI SANEN (QB901-649),
- 2) ARMING SELECTED VILLAGERS, AND
- 3) POSITIONING OF A FAR UNIT AT BAN NA KHAN (VIC QB8571).

HOUEI NYANG VILLAGERS HAVE REPORTEDLY REQUESTED PERMISSION ~~XX~~ FROM SAYABOURY KHOUENG OFFICIALS TO MOVE TO SAYABOURY AREA.

12) PHOU FA AREA (QA8083)

SOME 100 FAMILIES OF PHOU FA MEO CURRENTLY LIVING IN THE ENEMY-CONTROLLED PHOU FA AREA HAVE SOUNDED OUT WITH SAYABOURY KHOUENG AUTHORITIES THE POSSIBILITY TO MOVING TO THE NAM SONG AREA A SHORT DISTANCE SOUTHWEST OF NAM PHOUET. THE CHAO KHOUENG SUGGESTED TO THE MEO THAT LOCATIONS CLOSER IN TO SAYABOURY WOULD BE MORE PROMISING SECURITY-WISE. NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE ~~XXXXXXXX~~ VILLAGERS AND THE CHAO KHOUENG ARE STILL UNDERWAY.

CLEARANCE: *Louis Connick* LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

FCB  
31/10/72

TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA

31 OCTOBER 1972

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: REFUGEE SITUATION: 27-30 OCTOBER

MILITARILY, SINCE 26 OCTOBER FRIENDLY UNITS HAVE BEEN JOCKEYING BACK AND FORTH WITH THE ENEMY FOR POSITION NORTH OF PAKXEUANG WITH NEITHER SIDE GAINING OR LOSING MUCH GROUND. DURING THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS, HOWEVER, THE FRIENDLY TROOPS HAVE GAINED A FOOT-HOLD ON THE RIDGE RUNNING SOUTH OF THE FORMER GM-12 CP AT TH1618. BG-123 WAS AIRLIFTED ON 29-30 OCTOBER FROM POSITIONS NORTH OF PAK OU TO A LZ IN THE KHONE HOUNG AREA. ONE FAR UNIT HAS REPORTEDLY ESTABLISHED ITSELF IN THE HOUET KO (THO918) AREA, AND IS SERVING AS A PROTECTION FORCE FOR REFUGEES (UP TO 1,000) STILL LOCATED IN THE AREA. THERE ARE NOW FIVE IRREGULAR BATTALIONS, ONE FAR BATTALION AND SEVERAL MISCELLANEOUS UNITS ENGAGED IN THE EFFORT TO REGAIN LOST GROUND.

PHOU DAM (LS-256) WAS ALLEGEDLY LOST DURING THE NIGHT OF THE 27-28. ALTHOUGH DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE, THE SITE WAS SUPPOSEDLY RETAKEN ON THE 29th. SO FAR, NO REFUGEES (THERE ARE NOW ONLY 126 REFUGEES AT PHOU DAM) HAVE APPEARED; MOST OF THE PEOPLE LIVING THERE PROBABLY TOOK TO THE HILLS.

FOOD (5 KG RICE AND 3 KG NOODLES) WAS ISSUED TO ALL REFUGEES ON THE 27th AND 28th AT CENTRAL LOCATIONS:

- 1) MUONG SOPVI--MSW WAREHOUSE
- 2) MUONG PAK OU--PHA KOM
- 3) MUONG PAK XEUANG--THA XIENG THONG

THOSE FEW REFUGEES WHO DID NOT ARRIVE IN TIME FOR THE INITIAL RICE DISTRIBUTION ARE BEING ISSUED RICE ON A DAILY BASIS FROM THE MSW WAREHOUSE.

COMMODITIES--SLEEPING MATS, BLANKETS AND MOSQUITO NETS--WERE ISSUED ON 30 OCTOBER AT THE MSW WAREHOUSE TO REFUGEES FROM VILLAGES OCCUPIED BY THE ENEMY:

- 1) HAT MAT
- 2) PAK OU
- 3) KHOC NGEUAK
- 4) KHONE HOUNG
- 5) XANG HAI



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COMMODITY REQUESTS FROM OTHER REFUGEES WILL BE CONSIDERED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS. AS THEY DID NOT LEAVE UNDER PRESSURE MOST REFUGEES HAD AMPLE TIME TO BRING NECESSARY COMMODITIES OUT WITH THEM.

BEGINNING ON 31 OCTOBER PLASTIC WILL BE ISSUED TO REFUGEES LIVING IN MAKESHIFT SHELTERS. IT IS LIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE A PLASTIC REQUIREMENT FOR UP TO 900 FAMILIES.

ON 30 OCTOBER A MEETING PRESIDED OVER BY THE CHAO KHOUENG AND GENERAL OUAN RATTIKON WAS HELD FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING REFUGEE PROBLEMS. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION RAISED CONCERNING HOUSING REQUIREMENTS FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN TEMPORARY SHELTERS THE GENERAL CONSENSUS WAS THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE REFUGEES WOULD SOON BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME AND THAT TEMPORARY SHELTERS WOULD BE QUITE ADEQUATE FOR THE SHORT TERM.

ALL THOSE PRESENT AT THE MEETING SEEMED TO BE GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH THE WAY IN WHICH THE REFUGEE PROBLEM IS BEING HANDLED.

AS OF 1 NOVEMBER MEDICS ARE LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES CONTAINING NEW REFUGEES:

MUONG KHAM- 2 MEDICS  
BAN DANE - 1 MEDIC

ONE ROVING MEDIC IS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF COVERING THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

HOUA NA KANG  
BAN DONE  
BAN SOUAN

BELOW IS A BREAKDOWN OF ALL REFUGEES WHO HAVE MOVED TO THE L.P. AREA. AS SOON AS SECURITY PERMITS, A JOURNEY WILL BE MADE TO HOUET KHO TO DETERMINE WHICH REFUGEES HAVE RELOCATED AT THAT LOCATION. SMALL GROUPS OF REFUGEES CONTINUE TO FILTER INTO THE L.P. AREA; LISTS OF THESE PEOPLE IS BEING COMPILED DAILY.

CLEARANCE: Louis Connick LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

FCB

AC/LP  
12/2/68

MUONG PAK OU REFUGEES

<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
THINE HONG	SAME	61	326	MUONG KHAM	63	335	TH0506
	HOUET PENE	9	40	"	13	59	
	PHA KHOUANG	23	113	"	26	129	
	NONG KHAM	8	58	"	8	50	
	HAT KHAM	38	224	BAN DONE	40	232	TH0404
XANG HAI	SAME	56	283	WAT THAT	59	296	L.P.
KHONE KIENE	PHA THEUNG	28	162	KHOK PAP	26	156	TH0103
	HAT KHO	15	93	MUONG KHAM	15	93	
	KHONE KHAM	9	54	BAN SOUAN	11	68	
	MOK HO	33	168	"	23	138	
HOUET KHO	VANG LE	26	140	"	5	9	
BAN FAI	SAME	26	173	"	28	187	
	PAK CHEK	12	82	MUONG KHAM	13	88	
	HOUET CHIM	11	59	BAN SOUAN	5	32	
KHOK NGEUAK	SAME	16	69	MUONG KHAM	21	101	
KHONE HOUNG	SAME	18	107	NONG SAI	18	107	TH0303
HAT MAT	SAME	33	175	MUONG KHAM	28	150	
PAK OU	SAME	48	290	THA KHOK	22	128	
	LASAPONG	22	133	MUONG KHAM	1	6	
	H. KHA NYAI	36	122	"	2	6	



<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
PAK OU	PAK CHEK			BAN SOUAN	37	194	NEW REFUGEES
	LATAHAE			"	35	286	"
BAN MUONG	SAME	23	142	WAT THAT	15	93	
HOU EI YO	HOU EI YO LAO	30	176	BAN PAK KHAN	22	132	TH0102
	NA XANG	13	69	XIENG MENE	14	72	TH0002
BAN KHOK	SAME	23	129	MUONG KHAM	24	133	
	<u>TOTALS:</u>	617	3387		574	3280	

MISCELLENIOUS

FUNCTIONAIRES	-	20 FAM.	121 PEOP.
MONKS	-		59
		<u>20</u>	<u>180</u>

HOU EI SENE-	6 FAM	27 PEOP.	NOW AT B. I
PHA O	- 79 "	424 "	"
DON CHO	- 45 "	246 "	"
	<u>130</u>	<u>697</u>	

31 OCT 72

MUONG PAK XENG REFUGEES

<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
PAK XEUANG	SAME	63	323	XIENG THONG	74	384	L.P.
PAK PA	SAME	20	101	BAN DANE	20	101	TH1109
KHOC KHI NGEUA	SAME	30	139	KHOC PAP NEUA	38	187	
BAN THIN	SAME	41	191	MUONG KHAM	41	195	
BAN SIO	SAME	14	79	BAN DANE	15	82	
DONE KHOUN	SAME	19	124	KHOC PAP	19	124	
BAN LUANG	SAME	23	108	XANG KHONG	27	127	
PHONE SAVANG	SAME	37	200	KHOC PAP	41	220	
PHONE NGAM	SAME	23	113	BAN DANE	24	119	
BAN PHIA	SAME	17	81	BAN DANE	17	81	
BAN LUM	SAME	16	63	NONG SAI	13	68	
KEO LUANG	SAME	27	147	KHOC PAP	27	147	
BAN LE	SAME	23	183	THA KHOK	23	184	
	<u>TOTALS:</u>	353	1852		379	2019	

30 OCT 72



MUONG SOPVY REFUGEES

<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
KOK VANE TAI	SAME	19	119	HOUA NA KANG	23	144	THO200
KOK VANE NEUA	SAME	18	109	"	18	105	
NA TANE	SAME	41	207	"	47	236	
NA KHI YEN	SAME	21	103	"	22	101	
THA PO	SAME	1	5	"	1	5	
<del>THAXOMI</del>	THA OUI			"	7	32	NEW REFUGEES
	HOUET LEUK			"	5	21	"
BO HE	SAME	34	163	NONG SAI	35	170	
	<u>TOTALS:</u>	134	706		158	814	

30 OCT 72

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: REFUGEE SITREP--1-14 NOVEMBER

14 NOVEMBER 1972

FRIENDLY UNITS WHICH MOVED INTO THE AREA SOUTH OF PAK OU PULLED BACK (3 NOV) AFTER ENCOUNTERING ENEMY RESISTANCE AND HAVE ASSISTED IN THE EFFORT TO ESTABLISH A PERIMETER RUNNING ROUGHLY BETWEEN THE KING'S GARDEN AND BAN PAK PA (TH1509). UNITS OPERATING IN THE PAK XEUANG SECTOR HAVE EXPERIENCED ONLY A FEW SCATTERED CONTACTS AND SHELLINGS. OLD BG-121 AND BG-123 POSITIONS NORTH OF THE NAM OU HAVE BEEN ABANDONED AFTER THEY WERE OCCUPIED BY FAR UNITS (4 NOV). FREQUENT CLASHES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE KOK VANE AREA (BV-16) ALTHOUGH TO DATE MOST OF THE POSITIONS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HOLD.

ON ABOUT 6 NOVEMBER PHOU DAM (LS256) WAS LOST TO THE ENEMY AND THE FAR COMPANY IN POSITION THERE RETREATED TO XIENG MENE. ON 9 NOVEMBER CV-194 WAS INFILTRATED INTO THE AREA SOUTH OF PHOU DAM IN AN ATTEMPT TO REGAIN CONTROL OF THE AREA. ON 8 NOVEMBER PHOU LUANG NEUA/TAI REFUGEES MOVED TO BAN SOM (SH9911) AFTER THREE NAIBANS (PHOU LUANG NEUA) WERE ALLEGEDLY APPROACHED BY TWO LAO THEUNG PL AND ONE NVA AND ORDERED TO RETURN WITH THEIR PEOPLE TO THE MUONG SAI AREA.

ON 10 NOVEMBER THE 17/B POSITION AT TG1696 WAS LOST AND THE TROOPS WITHDREW TO TG1492. THEIR PRESENT LOCATION IS UNCERTAIN.

ENEMY INTENTIONS IN THE XIENG NGEUN AREA REMAIN UNCLEAR, ALTHOUGH NO CLASHES HAVE BEEN REPORTED. VILLAGERS IN THE AREA BETWEEN XIENG NGEUN AND KIO NYA REPORTED ON 7 NOVEMBER THAT THEY HAD SIGHTED 200 PL. THE REPORTS HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIRMED. ALSO UNCONFIRMED HAVE BEEN REPORTS BY REFUGEES LIVING ALONG THE MUONG NANE ROAD (VIC. VILLAGE #8) THAT SMALL GROUPS OF ENEMY WERE SEEN MOVING IN THE AREA (ON ABOUT 11 NOV).

REFUGEES AT KIOCACHAM HAVE INDICATED THAT AN ENEMY TAKEOVER OF PHOU KHOUN (LS260) WOULD PROMPT THEM TO MOVE, PROBABLY TO KIO NYA.

MOST OF THE SOME 300 BGR-131 IRREGULARS AT THONG KHANG HAVE BEEN PULLED INTO L.P. TO ASSIST IN THE DEFENSE OF THE CITY. THAT THE ENEMY MAY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION AND ATTACK THONG KHANG IS ALWAYS A POSSIBILITY. ALTHOUGH NO ENEMY SIGHTINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THAT AREA.

ENEMY MOVEMENTS (AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A BUILD-UP) IN THE VICINITY OF THE NAM LUM RIVER (VIC RB1395) HAVE CAUSED SOME CONCERN INSOFAR AS THE ENEMY MAY ATTEMPT TO HARASS MUONG KHAY. AS A DETERRENT TO SUCH ACTIVITY BG-110 (XIENG LOM) WAS POSITIONED AT MUONG KHAY IMMEDIATELY AFTER ITS ARRIVAL IN LP AFTER TRAINING IN THAILAND (10 NOV).

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ON 13 NOVEMBER AT 0340 HOURS THE ENEMY FIRED 51 122mm ROCKETS AT THE LP AIRFIELD FROM THE KOK VANE-PHIK NYAI AREA. MOST OF THE ROCKETS IMPACTED IN THE VICINITY OF THE T-28 RAMP.

AS OF 8 NOVEMBER 7,743 REFUGEES FROM THE PAK OU-PAK XEUANG-SOPVI AREAS HAD BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR AND SUPPLIED WITH FOOD AND (IN SOME CASES) COMMODITY ASSISTANCE.

DURING A MEETING AT THE KHOUENG OFFICE (9 NOV) IT WAS DECIDED TO SUPPLY ALL REFUGEES WITH MOSQUITO NETS, BLANKETS AND SLEEPING MATS. DISTRIBUTION OF THESE COMMODITIES TO REFUGEES WHO HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED THEM IS TAKING PLACE CONCURRENTLY WITH THE SECOND RICE DISTRIBUTION (13-15 NOV).

NO MEDICAL AND/OR HOUSING PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED IN ANY OF THE REFUGEE AREAS.

THE ATTACHED BREAKDOWN INDICATES NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS OF ALL OLD AND NEW REFUGEES WHO HAVE BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR AS OF 8 NOVEMBER. A DAY-BY-DAY BREAKDOWN OF REFUGEES ARRIVAL SINCE 27 OCTOBER WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE, AS WILL A BREAKDOWN OF ALL FOOD AND COMMODITY ISSUES.

CLEARANCE: Louis Connick LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

cc. AC/LP  
ORA/LP

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

MUONG PAK OU REFUGEES

<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
THINE HONG	✓ THINE HONG	61	326	MUONG KHAM	63	335	
<del>WOMEXXMARK</del>	✓ HOUEI MARK	19	82	KHOK PAP	1	3	
	✓ HOUEI PENE	9	42	MUONG KHAM	13	62	
	✓ PHA KHOUANG	23	113	"	26	129	
	✓ NONG KHAM	8	58	BAN SOUAN	9	60	
	✓ HAT KHAM	38	224	"	40	235	
XANG HAI	✓ XANG HAI	56	283	WAT THAT	59	298	
KHONE KIENE	✓ PHA THEUNG	28	162	KHOC PAP	32	179	
	✓ HAT KHO	15	93	MUONG KHAM	15	92	
	✓ KHONE KHAM	9	54	"	11	68	
	HOUEI KO	5	19	"	9	41	INCLUDES H. CHARK REFUGEES
	✓ HOUEI CHARK	3	16	"			
	✓ MOK HO	33	168	"	34	153	
HOUEI KHO	✓ HOUEI KHO	26	108	"	4	16	
	✓ VANG LE	26	140	BAN SOUAN	26	140	
	HOUEI HO	14	69			Ø	
BAN FAI	✓ BAN FAI	26	173	MUONG KHAM	28	186	
	✓ PAK CHEK	12	82	"	12	82	
	✓ HOUEI CHIM	11	59	"	14	77	
KHOC NGUEAK	✓ KHOC NGEUAK	16	69	"	20	118	
KHONE HOUNG	✓ KHONE HOUNG	18	107	PHONE SAAT	18	111	
HAT MAT	✓ HAT MAT	33	175	MUONG KHAM	35	160	



<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
PAK OU	PAK OU	47	279	THA WAT NONG	44	268	
	SENE KEO PONG	11	44			Ø	
	LASAPONG	22	134	KHOC PAP	4	24	
	H. KHA NYAI YAI	36	122	"	8	34	INCLUDES H. KHA NYAI NOI REFS.
	H. KHA NYAI NOI	22	86	"			
	THA KHOUANG	11	44			Ø	
	MOK KOK	9	48			Ø	
	HOUEI PAO	9	38	MUONG KHAM	10	41	
	MOK LEK	10	53	"	10	53	
	KEO TAI	9	37	"	9	37	
	MOK PLAY	31	146			Ø	
BAN MUONG	BAN MUONG	23	142	PHONE SAAT	25	152	
HOUEI YO	HOUEI YO LAO	30	176	KHOC PO	31	178	
	NA XANG	13	71	MUONG KHAM	14	75	
	HOUEI SUENG	13	76			Ø	
	HOUEI ANG	10	45			Ø	
	HOUEI YO NAI	8	41			Ø	
	PHA THAO	7	45			Ø	
	HOUEI PONG	21	87			Ø	
	THAM THEUNG	3	17			Ø	
	KHOC KHAM	10	51			Ø	
	BAN KHOC	23	127	BAN SOUAN	24	135	
<u>TOTALS:</u>		867	4531	TOTAL 256/1212 REFS UNACCT'D FOR	648	3542	INCL. 37/223 NEW REFUGEES

MUONG SOPVI REFUGEES

<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
KHOC VANE TAI	SAME	✓ 23	144	HOUA NA KANG	22	139	
KHOC VANE <del>WETA</del>	"	✓ 18	105	"	18	105	
NA TANE	"	✓ 47	236	"	49	243	
NA KHI YEN	"	✓ 22	101	"	21	99	
THA PO	"	1	5	HOUA DONE	1	5	
BO HE	"	✓ 35	170	NONG SAI	38	178	
LONG LANH	"	✓ 24	81	"	24	81	
HOUET PO	"	✓ 21	94	HOUA DONE	23	107	
HOUET KATOM	"	✓ 10	36	"	5	17	
HOUET SENE	"	6	27	KHOC SAMOY	60	313	
<hr/>							
<del>KHAXOXIX</del>	THA OUI				7	32	
	HOUET LEUK				5	21	
<hr/>							

TOTALS: 201	972	TOTAL 7/26 REFS UNA CT'D FOR	273	1340	INCL. 73/367 NEW REFUGEES
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MISCELLANEOUS NEW REFUGEES

PAK OU	✓ PAK CHEK	37	194
	✓ LATHAHAE	56	276
MUONG PAK OU	✓ FUNCT.	21	121
BAN DANE	✓ BAN DANE	36	231
	KHOC SAMOY		
TOTALS:		150	822



MUONG PAK XENG REFUGEES

<u>PREVIOUS LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
PAK XEUANG	SAME	63	325	XIENG THONG	73	384	
PAK PA	"	20	101	KHOC SAMOY	20	101	TH0707
KHOC KHI NGUEA	"	29	132	MUONG KHAM	38	187	
BAN THIN	"	41	191	"	42	193	
BAN SIEO	"	14	79	"	16	87	
DONE KHOUN	"	19	124	KHOC PAP	22	140	
BAN LUANG	"	23	113	SANG KHONG	27	127	TH0303
PHONE SAVANG	"	37	200	KHOC PAP	41	221	
PHONE NGAM	"	23	113	"	23	114	
BAN PHIA	"	17	81	"	17	81	
BAN LUM	"	12	63	NONG SAI	13	68	
KHI LUANG	"	27	147	KHOC PAP	27	148	
BAN LE	"	23	184	THA KHOC	23	188	
TOTALS: 348 1853					382	2039	INCL. 34/186 NEW REFUGEES

TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: REFUGEE SITREP--15-30 NOVEMBER

30 NOV 72

PAK OU AREA

ON 17 NOVEMBER GM-14 (BI-15 & BI-17) WAS HELILIFTED TO TH2231 AND GM-15 (BV-14 & BV-19) WAS LIFTED TO TH2620 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLOSING IN ON THE ENEMY FROM THE REAR IN AN ATTEMPT TO RELIEVE PRESSURE ON THE PAK XEUANG FRONT. SIMULTANEOUSLY, ALL IRREGULAR UNITS BEGAN MOVING NORTH AND MADE SOME PROGRESS IN REGAINING LOST GROUND UNTIL BEING DRIVEN BACK TO PAK XEUANG DURING THE NIGHT OF 22-23 NOVEMBER. THE FAR UNITS KEPT MOVING FORWARD, HOWEVER, AND ON ABOUT 26 NOVEMBER GM-15 SUCCEEDED IN SECURING THE OLD ARTILLERY POSITION AT TH1618. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, GM-14 REACHED AND SECURED THE TH1221 AREA AND THE SGU UNITS ONCE AGAIN BEGAN MOVING NORTH. BY THE END OF THE MONTH THE IRREGULARS HAD REOCCUPIED MUCH OF THE AREA SEPARATING THEM FROM THE FAR UNITS WITH LITTLE OPPOSITION FROM THE ENEMY. EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT THE NVA UNITS PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED TO THE PAK OU-PAK XEUANG SECTOR HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN AND ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING REPLACED BY PL UNITS. BARRING THE UNFORESSEEN, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT MOST OF THE AREAS FROM WHICH REFUGEES WERE DISPLACED WILL SOON BE SECURED.

PHOU DAM-PHOU LUANG

AFTER THE LOSS OF PHOU DAM ON 5 NOVEMBER ONLY 18/89 REFUGEES--THOSE WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY PHYSICALLY LOCATED AT PHOU DAM--WERE DISPLACED. THE BALANCE OF THE PEOPLE IN THE PHOU DAM AREA PRESUMABLY TOOK TO THE HILLS.

REFUGEES LOCATED AT PHOU LUANG NEUA--MEO AND LAO THEUNG--SUBSEQUENTLY MOVED TO THE HILLS BETWEEN PHOU LUANG NEUA AND BAN SOM (TH0011). AS MOST OF THE REFUGEES ARE EASILY WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF THEIR OLD VILLAGES AND AS THE SECURITY IN THE PHOU LUANG AREA DOES NOT MAKE THE SITUATION UNTENABLE RICE SUPPORT HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED IN VIEW OF THEIR SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND IN VIEW OF THEIR CAPABILITY TO RETURN TO THEIR VILLAGES DURING THE DAYTIME.

PHOU LUANG TAI REFUGEES DID NOT LEAVE THEIR VILLAGES AND ARE CURRENTLY UNDER THE PROTECTION OF BV-17 WHICH IS LOCATED AT PHOU LUANG TAI.

AN OPERATION TO RETAKE PHOU DAM IS SOON TO GET UNDERWAY.



PHA THEUNG

AFTER THE LOSS OF PHOU PHA THEUNG ON 10 NOVEMBER, 17/B RETREATED TO KOK NGIEU (TG0796) AND SUBSEQUENT REPORTS OF INCREASING ENEMY MOVEMENT IN THE AREA BETWEEN PHA THEUNG AND THE NAM KHAN RIVER PRECIPITATED THE DISPLACEMENT OF THE ENTIRE POPULATION LOCATED ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE NAM KHAN BETWEEN XIENG NGEUN AND XIENG LOM (TG1199).

MID-

IN ~~KKKK~~ NOVEMBER ONE COMPANY OF BGR-131 SOLDIERS MOVED INTO XIENG LOM AND BEGAN SENDING PATROLS INTO THE HOUET NOK (TH1501) AREA. ON THE NIGHT OF THE 17th XIENG LOM WAS MORTARED, AND ALTHOUGH NO CASUALTIES WERE SUSTAINED THE INCIDENT PROMPTED A NUMBER OF THE XIENG LOM VILLAGERS TO MOVE TO LUANG PRABANG.

ON 14 NOVEMBER LAO THEUNG REFUGEES FROM BAN HOUET NOK (14/64), PHA KHAO (11-52), MUONG KHAY (43-151), HOUET ANG (8-37) AND HOUET NHOUAN (24-97) ARRIVED AT XIENG LOM AFTER BECOMING FEARFUL OF ENEMY INTENTIONS IN THE AREA. ON 12-13 NOVEMBER MEO VILLAGERS FROM THE SAME AREA--LONG VAI PAK TANG (21-123), PHA NYA KHA LUANG (12-79) AND LONG VAI KAO (22-109)--MOVED TO XIENG LOM.

ON 13 NOVEMBER CONTACT WAS REPORTED BETWEEN THE ENEMY AND THE VILLAGE SOLDIERS AT BAN BOUAM OH (VIC TG1093). AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME CONTACT WAS REPORTED IN THE ADJACENT AREA NEAR HOUET FAI. IN CONSEQUENCE BOTH VILLAGES MOVED TO BAN SA KAO (TG0690) AND LONG OH (TG0793), RESPECTIVELY, ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE NAM KHAN RIVER (BOUAM OH-60/352; HOUET FAI-34-170). OTHER VILLAGES SITUATED ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE NAM KHAN CROSSED THE RIVER AND SET UP TEMPORARY RESIDENCE IN VILLAGES ON THE LEFT BANK: BAN SA (21-108) TO BAN SA KAO, PAK HOUET YEN (45-257) TO SOUAN LUANG (TH0692), HOUET YAN KAO (17-64) TO SOUAN LUANG, NAM PLONG (12-51) TO SOUAN LUANG, HOUET YEN DIN PHA (27-149) TO SOUAN LUANG, AND BAN SOUAN (34-218) TO LONG OH.

DURING A KHOUENG MEETING ON 27 NOVEMBER THE CHAO MUONG OF XIENG NGEUN REQUESTED FOOD SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WHO LEFT XIENG LOM, BAN SOUAN, LONG OH AND BAN EN AND MOVED TO LUANG PRABANG. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THERE WAS NO ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THOSE VILLAGES (REFUGEES DISPLACED FROM THE RIGHT BANK OF THE NAM KHAN ARE LOCATED IN EACH OF THE VILLAGES) IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE REQUEST WAS NOT A VALID ONE.

AN OPERATION TO RETAKE PHOU PHA THEUNG IS SOON SCHEDULED TO GET UNDERWAY. UNITS TO BE ENGAGED WILL BE BG-108 (NAM YOU) AND 17/B (CURRENTLY IN REFRESHER TRAINING IN LP).



BOUAM XIENG AREA

ON 10 NOVEMBER BV-15 SOLDIERS FROM THE BAN SOM-BAN NA AREA WENT TO BOUAM XIENG (SH9207) TO RECEIVE THEIR MONTHLY PAY. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY THE SOLDIERS, NUMBERING ABOUT THIRTY MEN, SCATTERED ON PATROL IN THE SURROUNDING AREA. ON 12 NOVEMBER SOME 80 PL ENTERED BAN PAK LUNG (SG9099) AT 1800 HOURS AND THE VILLAGERS REPORTED THAT AT 1700 HOURS THE UNIT SPLIT WITH ONE GROUP HEADED TO THE BOUAM XIENG AREA AND THE OTHER TO BAN CHONG (RC1401). THE ENEMY FORCE WAS REPORTEDLY FROM THE PHOU VAYSOM AREA. ON 13 NOVEMBER AT 0730 HOURS BV-15 PATROLS RAN INTO AN ENEMY PATROL NEAR BAN GEUAP (SH9108) AND RETREATED TO BOUAM LAO (VIC SH9305) AFTER REPORTEDLY LOSING TWO MEN CAPTURED. AT THIS POINT, VILLAGERS (MOSTLY SGU DEPENDENTS) FROM BAN GEUAP, HOUEI YEN, HOUEI OHN AND BOUAM XIENG BEGAN FILTERING OUT TO BAN THA PO (SH9702). DISPLACED VILLAGES INCLUDE:

HOUEI YEN	TASSENG LONG YA	MUONG LA	79-346
HOUEI OHN	" "	"	740372
BOUAM XIENG		MUONG NAM	190-1096
		BAK	

ALL OF THE BAN GEUAP REFUGEES HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR OLD VILLAGE. TEAMS OPERATING IN THE BOUAM XIENG AREA REPORT NO OCCUPYING ENEMY FORCE. IT APPEARS AS THOUGH THE ENEMY IS SITUATED ABOUT FIVE KM NORTHWEST OF BOUAM XIENG AND THAT THERE NEITHER WAS NOR IS MUCH OF A THREAT TO THE BOUAM XIENG-HOUEI YEN AREA. THE REFUGEES WHO FLED THAT AREA WILL BE GIVEN ONE MONTH'S RICE SUPPLY ONLY AND ENCOURAGED TO RETURN HOME.

REFUGEE SELF SUFFICIENCY

DURING THE COURSE OF THREE KHOUENG MEETINGS ON 27 NOVEMBER, 30 NOVEMBER AND 2 DECEMBER IT WAS DECIDED THAT RICE SUPPORT WOULD BE DISCONTINUED BEGINNING IN DECEMBER TO SELF SUFFICIENT REFUGEES LOCATED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

MUONG NANE	22-116
THIN KEO	159-911
HOUEI PHAY	246-1010
MG. NANE ROAD	515-2737
KHOC PAP	279-1764
PHOU DAM	126
PHOU LUANG TAI	121-682
PHOU LUANG NEUA	136-764
PHOU CHIA	275-1841



THONG KHANG	151-908
HOUET TA SAE	46
PHOU DIN DENG	173-1037
MUONG MET	346
TOTAL:	<u>72,288</u> PEOPLE

ATTACHED IS A BREAKDOWN OF THE ABOVE LOCATIONS BY VILLAGE.

IT WAS ALSO DECIDED THAT KIO NYA AND KIOCACHAM REFUGEES WOULD BE ISSUED RICE FOR THREE MORE MONTHS, AT WHICH TIME CONTINUED RICE SUPPORT WOULD BE CONTINGENT UPON PREPARATION OF HIGHLAND RICE FIELDS BY THE REFUGEES.

RICE SUPPORT FOR THE ABOVE REFUGEES WILL INITIALLY BE DISCONTINUED FOR ONE MONTH. DURING DECEMBER, A SPECIAL COMMITTEE WILL BE ASSIGNED TO SURVEY THE QUANTITY OF RICE HARVESTED AT EACH LOCATION IN ORDER TO DETERMINE APPROXIMATE LENGTH OF TIME EACH VILLAGE WILL REMAIN SELF SUFFICIENT.

#### DEPENDENTS

ON 30 NOVEMBER A MEETING ATTENDED BY COL. THONGPHANH, AB-1, AC/LP AND ORA WAS HELD TO FINALIZE CHANGES BEING MADE IN THE DEPENDENT SUPPORT PROGRAM. REGARDING PL-480 FOOD ISSUES TO DEPENDENTS, IT WAS DECIDED THAT DISTRIBUTION ON A PER FAMILY BASIS WOULD BE CONTINUED. AT THIS RATE, DEPENDENT FAMILIES WOULD RECEIVE 30 KG RICE AND 20 KG PL-480; SINGLE SOLDIERS WOULD RECEIVE 15 KG RICE AND 15 KG PL-480. PL-480 FOODSTUFFS WILL BE ISSUED TO DEPENDENTS BEGINNING IN DECEMBER.

REGULARIZATION OF DEPENDENT NAMELISTS AND UNIT PAYROLLS WAS DISCUSSED, AND BEGINNING IN DECEMBER AN ORA FIELD ASSISTANT WILL BE ASSIGNED TO WORK WITH UNIT REPRESENTATIVES IN AN ATTEMPT TO REPORT PERSONNEL CHANGES. IT WAS AGREED THAT ID CARDS FOR DEPENDENT FAMILIES WOULD BE ISSUED AFTER THE SCU SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN PHOTOGRAPHED AND ISSUED ID CARDS, A PROCESS WHICH WILL COMMENCE IN DECEMBER. IN MOST CASES, ATTEMPTS TO REGULARIZE DEPENDENT NAMELISTS AND THE PAYROLL IN NOVEMBER WERE LESS THAN SUCCESSFUL IN VIEW OF THE RATHER CONFUSED STATE OF AFFAIRS RESULTING FROM THE ENEMY OFFENSIVE.

#### LIMA TANGOES

PRIOR TO 1970 THE MAJORITY OF THE NORTHERN LUANG PRABANG AND PHONGSALY LAO THEUNG WERE SITUATED IN ZONE 7 UNDER THE COMMAND OF XIENG MANH NOI AND ZONE 8 UNDER THE COMMAND OF XIENG PHANH. ZONE 7 COMPRISED



WHAT IS NOW BATTALION 202 AND 205, AND ZONE 8 COMPRISED BATTALION 208. IN 1970 MOST OF THE ZONE 7 AND ZONE 8 LAO THEUNG WERE FIRED AFTER ALLEGEDLY BUGGING OUT IN THE FACE OF ENEMY ATTACKS IN THE PAKBENG AREA AND WENT TO WORK FOR LONG THIENG UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF XIENG PHANH.

AFTER THE BREAK BETWEEN ZONE 7 AND ZONE 8 LAO THEUNG AND MR-I XIENG MANH NOI REMAINED IN LUANG PRABANG AT THE REQUEST OF GEN. VANNASENG (SGU COMMANDER AND CHAO KHOUENG, PHONGSALY). ACCORDING TO XIENG MANH NOI, THE LAO THEUNG TROOPERS WHO WENT TO LONG THIENG WENT THERE WITH THE (MISTAKEN) IMPRESSION THAT THEY WOULD BE REOUTFITTED AND RETURN TO RETAKE THEIR HOMES IN NORTHERN LUANG PRABANG AND PHONGSALY PROVINCES.

DURING THE COURSE OF THE PAST YEAR MANY LAO THEUNG SOLDIERS FROM BATTALIONS 202 AND 208 HAVE DESERTED AND RETURNED TO LUANG PRABANG; THE DESERTION RATE HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY HIGH DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS AFTER THE UNITS TOOK A HEAVY BEATING IN THE MUONG PHANH (LS-106) AREA ON THE PDJ. MANY OF THE RETURNING SOLDIERS HAVE ENTERED MR-I SGU UNITS. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS THE FACT THAT XIENG PHANH LEFT LONG THIENG LAST MONTH AND HAS GONE BACK TO WORK FOR MR-I IN THE CAPACITY OF DEPUTY GM-12 COMMANDER (SGU).

CLEARANCE:

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MR LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

FCB  
1/12/72

cc: AC/LP  
WILLIAMSON, ORA  
ORA/LP



# ATTACHMENT A

## RICE SELF SUFFICIENCY

BELOW IS A LIST OF REFUGEES WHO HAVE ATTAINED PARTIAL OR COMPLETE SELF SUFFICIENCY FOLLOWING HARVEST:

<u>PRESENT VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>ORIG. VILL.</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOP.</u>
MUONG NANE	LS-254	PHA KHOUANG		NANE	22	116
THIN KEO	RB1390	SIMONGKHOUN	NAM NGA	XUNE	48	242
		LUM TAI	"	"	22	135
		NAM BAC	NAM BAC	NAM BAC	18	126
		HATTEU	HATTEU	PAK OU	16	117
		HOUEI PAN	MG. XUNE	XUNE	24	131
		HAT SEUA	"	"	20	99
		NA HAI	SALEUAN	KHAY	11	61
HOUEI PHAY	SG9498	H. KHA NENG	MG. LA	LA	2	12
		KIOU KO	"	"	7	31
		DONG LANH	"	"	2	6
		HOUEI PHOUK	LONG YA	"	7	23
		MOK KAU	MG. LA	"	3	12
		MOK CHAK	"	"	3	14
		H. KHA NENG	LONG YA	"	5	25
		HOUEI SANG	"	"	7	21
		KOUNG LANG	MG. LA	"	2	7
		HOUEI HAI	LONG YA	"	5	23
		HOUEI LAI	MG. LA	"	2	6
		MOK SAI	LONG YA	"	5	30
		DONG NOI	MG. LA	"	5	21
		NAM TONG	LONG YA	"	5	20
		NAM PEUY	"	"	6	23
		NAM POUNG	MG. LA	"	5	18
		HOUEI TA	"	"	2	6
		HOUEI NONG	"	"	9	36
		PHO ONH	"	"	8	36
		NAM PONG	"	"	9	29
		HOUEI KAP	"	"	11	38
		HOUEI OUT	"	"	2	9
		LIENG NYAI	"	"	2	6
		HOUEI LANG	"	"	6	20
		HOUEI SOU	"	"	1	6
		HOUEI ANE	"	"	7	20
		LING LANG	"	"	10	51
		PHOU THOUM	"	"	13	73
		BAN THONG	"	"	10	36
		NAM PHANE	"	"	2	9
		KONG THA	"	"	6	30

<u>PRESENT VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>ORIG. VILL.</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOP.</u>
KIKKXKMA						
HOUEI PHAY		KIOU KHA	MG. LA	LA	4	13
		MOK CHI LERK	"	"	3	9
		YA NONG PHO	"	"	5	23
		LUANG MIENG	"	"	1	3
		KIO TA KONG	"	"	9	35
		TA LONG KOUANG	"	"	3	12
		PHA TOUP	"	"	4	13
		SAN LATH	"	"	8	30
		MOK POTH	"	"	3	20
		HOUEI PHI	"	"	5	16
		KIOU BUNG	"	"	6	28
		PHA VY	"	"	2	9
		NAM PLOUNG	LONG YA	"	5	21
		KIOU CHA ROU	MG. LA	"	8	18
		HOUEI OI	"	"	5	14
		PHONE SAI	LONG YA	"	9	49
MUONG NANE RD.	#1	KIO TEUY		XG.NGEUN	45	164
	#2	HOUEI KANE			20	89
		HOUEI KOK			18	76
		H. LUANG NEUA			56	244
	#3	PHOU NGOUA	DANE KHOUA	"	24	119
		HOUEI PHANE	"	"	24	112
	#4	H. HIN KHAM	"	"	16	93
		MUONG YOU	MG. YOU	MG. YOU	15	92
	#5	SOP CHOUAN	DANE KHOUA		4	21
		PAK MEME	"	XG.NGEUN	16	94
		HAT KHAM	"	"	9	63
		DANE KHOUA	"	"	41	275
	#6	PHOU SOUNG	"	"	31	200
		PAK LENG	"	"	27	138
	#7	HIN LECK	"	"	18	128
		HOUEI KOK	"	"	13	82
		VANG MEME TAI	"	"	15	71
		NAM THI NEUA	"	"	14	91
		HOUEI NA	"	"	13	56
		KENG KHAY	"	"	4	24
	#11	PHA HOUNG	"	"	69	381
		PHOU LUANG	LONG YA	LA	23	124
KHOC PAP	TH0103	LATHAN	KAKKXKX	PAK OU	123	754
		LATKHAMOUN	LATHAN	"	21	112
		KHOC PHOU	"	"	47	306
		NGOI HAI	"	"	22	144
		KENG KHENE	"	"	66	448



PRESENT VILLAGE	COORDS	ORIG. VILL.	TASSENG	MUONG	FAM.	PEOP.
PHOU DAM	LS256			MG.SAI		126
PHOU LUANG TAI	TH0114	HOUEI SA	LONG YA	LA	10	65
		THONG SEN	"	"	25	150
		LAO LAO	"	"	7	36
		HOUEI SONG	"	"	5	38
		CHA LENG YAI	"	"	11	56
		LAO LU	"	"	12	50
		CHA LENG NOI	"	"	15	86
		MOK PLAY	"	"	17	86
		LAO PO	"	"	19	115
PHOU LUANG NEUA	TH0116	HONG THU	"	"	10	77
		LAO THE	"	"	7	38
		CHA CHERY	"	"	43	250
		MOK LAM TANG	NAM NGA	XUNE	20	115
		NAM KHANK	"	"	23	127
		HOUA KHOUA	"	"	33	157
PHOU CHIA	LS25	PHA KOM	PHOU CHIA	XG.NGHEUN	11	86
		NA SAO KAO	"	"	16	99
		PHA TING	"	"	23	195
		NAM MAO	"	"	11	49
		NAM LAN	"	"	13	90
		PHA LANG MOU	DANE KHOUA	"	11	61
		PHA NGAM	PHOU CHIA	"	19	118
		DONG KAO	"	"	13	63
		PHA KOM NEUA	"	"	45	334
		PHA KOM TAI	"	"	15	95
		LONG HOUEI NOI	"	"	26	161
		PHOU CHIA YAI	"	"	36	250
		NAM SANAN	"	"	36	240
THONG KHANG	LS355	HOUEI PIK	PHOU PEN	PEK	9	59
		PHOU DOK	XIENG KHOUANG		12	53
		HOUEI CHOUANG	"	"	7	46
		LA HO	"	"	6	49
		SANANG	"	"	4	27
		NAM SAO NEUA	"	"	7	41
		HOUEI MAT	"	"	21	112
		NAM SAO TAI	"	"	7	37
		SALEUT	"	"	16	86
		DEPS BG227	"	"	11	90
HOUEI TA SAE	RB1398	KHONESOK		NANE	51	308
						46

<u>PRESENT VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>ORIG. VILL.</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOP.</u>
PHOU DIN DENG	SG9365	PHA VANG YANG	PHOU CHIA	XG.NGEUN	18	136
		NA LENG NEUA	"	"	20	128
		NONG KHAM	"	"	48	191
		NONG KHAM NOI	"	"	21	170
		PHA HUNG TAI	"	"	30	187
		NAM HAP	"	"	7	52
		XOUA VANG YANG	"	"	17	117
		PHOU DIN DENG	"	"	12	64
MUONG MET	LS158			MET		346



TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA

29 DECEMBER 1972

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: MONTHLY SITREP--DECEMBER

PHOU DAM AREA

ON 30 NOVEMBER BG-124 MOVED OUT OF BAN DANE (TH1009) TOWARD PHOU DAM; BG-124 WAS REPLACED AT PHOU LEK (TH0905) BY BG-103 (NAM YU). ON 3 DECEMBER BG-124 REACHED PHOU DAM WITH ONLY MINIMUM RESISTANCE FROM THE ENEMY (WHO WAS APPARENTLY PHYSICALLY LOCATED ON PHOU DAM). BETWEEN 3 DECEMBER AND 9 DECEMBER, AT WHICH TIME BG-124 MOVED TO CLEAR THE AREA SOUTHWEST OF PHOU DAM, BG-124 SECURED THE IMMEDIATE PHOU DAM AREA BEFORE BEING REPLACED ON 9 DECEMBER BY BV-17 AND BV-15. BG-124 IS PRESENTLY SITUATED ON POSITIONS IN THE PHOU NANG VANG AREA (RC1113) AND HAS REPORTED SEVERAL SCATTERED CLASHES WITH ENEMY PATROLS.

ON 4 DECEMBER BG-124 ALLEGEDLY SPOTTED ENEMY MOVEMENT IN THE VICINITY OF LATHAN ON THE MEKONG RIVER AND CALLED IN T-28 AIRSTRIKES AGAINST BAN HOUET KHE (TH0123). BAN HOUET KHE WAS INHABITED BY REFUGEES ORIGINALLY FROM LATHKHAMOUN (RC1020) WHO MOVED THERE FROM KOK PAP IN SEPTEMBER (RE: MONTHLY SITREP--SEPTEMBER). AUTHORIZED TO RETURN HOME BY FAR, MOST OF THE 17 FAMILIES 85 PEOPLE WERE ENGAGED IN MERCANTILE PURSUITS. THE MISSION OF THE T-28s AT 1100 HOURS WAS REPORTEDLY DIRECTED AGAINST BOATS SUSPECTED OF FERRYING ENEMY SOLDIERS ACROSS THE MEKONG BUT SEVERAL BOMBS FELL IN OR NEAR THE VILLAGE KILLING 2 REFUGEES AND WOUNDING 4. ALL OF THE REFUGEES SUBSEQUENTLY MOVED TO KHOC PAP.

THE REFUGEES REPORTED THAT ON 2-3 DECEMBER AN NVA UNIT HEADING NORTH CROSSED THE MEKONG AT A POINT BETWEEN LATHAN AND KHOC KHAM (TH0423) WITH ORDERS TO WITHDRAW NORTH (BACK TO NVN ?). SUBSEQUENT REPORTS HAVE INDICATED THAT ENEMY UNITS ARE PRESENTLY LOCATED IN AREAS ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE MEKONG URBSTREAM FROM PAK OU. THAT THIS IS THE CASE HAS BEEN BORNE OUT BY THE FACT THAT REFUGEES HAVE RECENTLY MOVED OUT FROM THOSE AREAS (KHOC KHAM-HOUET YO).

PHOU DAM-PHOU LUANG REFUGEES

A KHOUENG REFUGEE COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDED BY ORA AND CONCERNED RLG CIVILIAN AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES WAS HELD ON 8 DECEMBER TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF CONTINUED RICE SUPPORT TO MEO AND LAO THEUNG REFUGEES LOCATED AT PHOU DAM (MUONG SAI), PHOU LUANG NEUA (MUONG LA AND MUONG KUNE) AND PHOU LUANG TAI (MUONG LA). THE MILITARY

REPRESENTATIVE, MAJOR OUNHEUAN, EXPLAINED THAT THE SUBJECT MEO HAVE MADE NO CONTRIBUTION TO THE RLG POSITION IN THE AREA AND HAVE CHOSEN TO PLAY LUANG PRABANG, MR-II AND THE ENEMY OFF AGAINST EACH OTHER FOR THEIR OWN GAIN. THE MILITARY CITED THE REFUGEES' PREMATURE DEPARTURE FROM THEIR VILLAGES (THE PHOU LUANG AREA DID NOT EXPERIENCE ENEMY ACTIVITY, BV-17 HAVING BEEN IN PLACE THERE THROUGHOUT) FOLLOWING ALLEGED ENEMY ATTACKS AGAINST PHOU DAM AS AN EXAMPLE OF THEIR BAD FAITH, AND HAS EVEN ACCUSED CERTAIN MEO GROUPS AS BEING ACCOMPLICES TO THE ENEMY.

MAJOR OUNHEUAN STATED THAT AN ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO RECRUIT ONE BATTALION OF SOLDIERS FROM THE PHOU DAM-PHOU LUANG-BOUAM XIENG AREA AS A MEANS OF INVOLVING THE VILLAGERS IN RLG AFFAIRS AND IN MAINTAINING SECURITY IN THE AREA. INDICATIONS THUS FAR ARE THAT THE VILLAGERS IN THE AREA HAVE EXPRESSED NO DESIRE TO FORM A FAR UNIT AND WILL AGREE ONLY TO FORM A VILLAGE DEFENSE UNIT OR AN SGU BATTALION. FAR IS NOT AGREEABLE TO THE IDEA OF ADO-TYPE UNITS AND IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE SUPPORT FORTHCOMING FOR THE FORMATION OF AN SGU UNIT.

IT WAS AGREED THAT RICE SUPPORT FOR THE PHOU DAM-PHOU LUANG REFUGEES WOULD BE DISCONTINUED IN VIEW OF THEIR CURRENT SELF-SUFFICIENT STATUS.

#### PHA THEUNG

ON 3 DECEMBER 17/B AND BG-108 (NAM YU) TROOPS WERE MOVED BY RLAF CHOPPERS TO A LZ ON PHOU PHA THEUNG RIDGE AT TH2203. THE UNITS MOVED SOUTHWARD ALONG THE RIDGE AND RETOOK OLD 17/B POSITIONS AT TG1696 (6 DEC.) AND TH1492 (8 DEC.) AGAINST LITTLE OPPOSITION (ONLY A FEW PATROL CLASHES AND SHELLINGS). DUE TO A BREAKDOWN IN THE BG-108 LEADERSHIP, HOWEVER, THAT UNIT DESERTED ENTIRELY TO LUANG PRABANG SEVERAL DAYS AFTER SECURING THE PHA THEUNG RIDGE AND WERE SUBSEQUENTLY SHIPPED BACK TO NAM YU ON 14-15 DEC. 17/B REMAINS IN POSITION AT PHA THEUNG ALONG WITH ONE FAR COMPANY (CV-161).

BG-107, WHICH HAD BEEN OPERATING IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE NAM KHAN AND PHOU PHA THEUNG, RETURNED TO NAM YU ON 4 DECEMBER LEAVING A VACUUM IN THAT AREA. SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS WERE REPORTED IN THE VICINITY OF RLG 13 BETWEEN XIENG NGOUN AND KOK NGIEU (TG0796) AND, ALTHOUGH LARGELY UNCONFIRMED, INDICATIONS WERE THAT THE ENEMY ORIGINATED IN THE PAK PAK (TG1586)-PAK SA (TG1277) AREA AND WERE POSSIBLY ELEMENTS OF PL BATTALION 409.

ON THE NIGHT OF 17-18 DECEMBER THE ENEMY ATTACKED A BOR-131



COMPANY POSITION AT VIC TH1205 KILLING 9 AND WOUNDING 9 CAUSING THE UNIT TO WITHDRAW TO DAN PIK NOI (TH1002). BGR-131 WAS REPLACED A FEW DAYS LATER BY BG-122. A SHORT TIME LATER, AT 0200 HOURS, THE ENEMY FIRED AN ESTIMATED 31 122mm ROCKETS AT THE LUANG PRABANG AIRPORT FROM TH155045 AND TH155043, ONE OF WHICH LANDED IN FRONT OF THE ORA RICE DROP WAREHOUSE. SEVERAL ROCKETS FELL SHORT OF THE MARK AND IMPACTED IN BAN HAT HIEN (TH0402) KILLING 3 CHILDREN AND 1 WOMAN AND WOUNDING ABOUT 12 OTHER CIVILIANS.

#### LONG NAM KHAN

AFTER ATTAINING SELF-SUFFICIENCY, CERTAIN LONG NAM KHAN AREA REFUGEES WERE REMOVED FROM THE RICE SUPPORT ROLLS IN DECEMBER (RE: MONTHLY SITREP--NOVEMBER). IN THE WAKE OF THIS ACTION GROUPS OF REFUGEES HAVE "THREATENED" TO MOVE OUT OF THE PROJECT AREA AND INTO THE SURROUNDING AREAS IF RICE SUPPORT IS NOT RESUMED. THE MAIN PROTAGONISTS IN THIS CASE HAVE BEEN REFUGEES AT VILLAGE #5. TOTALLING SOME 500 PEOPLE, THESE REFUGEES ARE ORIGINALLY FROM TASSENG DANE KHOUA AND INCLUDE BAN SOP CHOUAN, PAK MENE AND DANE KHOUA. THE ASSISTANT TASSENG OF DANE KHOUA IS REPORTEDLY AN EX-PL CHAO KHOUENG WHO HAS SERVED AS THE NUCLEUS OF THE PROTEST MOVEMENT. THE REFUGEES WERE TOLD THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE PREVENTED FROM MOVING IF THEY DESIRED TO DO SO.

FURTHER DISSATISFACTION HAS MANIFESTED ITSELF IN THE FORM OF LAND DISPUTES, PRIMARILY IN VILLAGES #2 AND #3. THE REFUGEES AT #2 AND #3 CONTEND THAT SINCE THE VILLAGE SITES ARE TOO CLOSE TOGETHER THERE IS INSUFFICIENT LAND FOR HIGHLAND RICE FIELDS. THE REFUGEES WERE TOLD THAT PLOTS OF LAND SITUATED ON ADJACENT HILLSIDES WOULD BE RESERVED FOR THEM.

TO DATE, NO PLAN HAS BEEN FORMULATED WHEREBY A LAND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IS SET UP. HOWEVER, A LAND PROBLEM IS NOT EXPECTED THIS YEAR, AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE CHIEF EXPECTS THAT WITH A CEASE-FIRE MANY OF THE REFUGEES--A SIZEABLE PERCENTAGE OF WHOM COME FROM THE NAM MING VALLEY--WILL LIKELY BE IN A POSITION TO RETURN HOME WITH RELATIVE EASE. IN THE EVENT THAT MOST OF THE REFUGEES DO NOT OR CANNOT RETURN HOME NEW LAND AREAS FURTHER DOWN THE VALLEY (ASSUMING THAT PRESENT LAND AREAS ARE INSUFFICIENT) TOWARD MUONG NANE MAY HAVE TO BE APPORTIONED. IT WOULD PROBABLY BE PRUDENT AT SOME POINT TO PROCURE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE VALLEY RESERVE AREA AND EXAMINE THEM IN ORDER TO DETERMINE TOTAL AVAILABLE HECTARAGE.

CERTAIN REFUGEES--PARTICULARLY FROM THE LONG NAM MING AREA BETWEEN KIOCACHAM AND PHOU CHIA--HAVE ALREADY RETURNED HOME TO THEIR ORIGINAL VILLAGES IN SMALL GROUPS IN VIEW OF THE GENERALLY QUIET SECURITY SITUATION IN THE AREA. THE REFUGEES LISTED BELOW HAVE RECENTLY RETURNED HOME:

<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
VILLAGE #9	SAY THONG TAI	3	15
"			
<del>THAM LOUP</del>	THAM LOUP	4	20
"	NAM PLONG	4	15
VILLAGE #10	NAM HAP	3	15

ON 23 DECEMBER COMMODITIES WERE ISSUED TO REFUGEES IN THE LONG NAM KHAN WHO HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED THEM: VILLAGES 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 (BAN HIN LEK), #5 (7 FAMILIES), #10 (4 FAMILIES).

PHOU NONG KHOUAY AREA REFUGEES HAVE BY AND LARGE SCATTERED TO SURROUNDING AREAS, ALLEGEDLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF RETURNING TO THEIR OLD VILLAGES AND HARVESTING RICE, ETC. (RE: MONTHLY SITREP-- AUGUST; MONTHLY SITREP--OCTOBER). AS MOST OF THE REFUGEES WERE ABLE TO GATHER ENOUGH RICE FOR THREE OR FOUR MONTHS THEY ARE PRESENTLY SELF-SUFFICIENT; HOWEVER, AS THEIR RICE STOCKS WILL SOON BE DEPLETED, MANY OF THE REFUGEES IN HOUET KHANG (VILLAGE #1) AND NA DU (XIENG NGEUN) HAVE REQUESTED PERMISSION TO RETURN TO THE LONG NAM KHAN PROJECT IN THE FUTURE SO THAT CONTINUED RICE SUPPORT WOULD BE FORTHCOMING. SUPPORT TO THESE REFUGEES WAS TERMINATED AFTER THEY MOVED FROM THE PROJECT AREA IN OCTOBER. BELOW IS A BREAKDOWN OF NONG KHOUAY REFUGEES BY LOCATION:

<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. VILLAGE</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>
HOUET TALONG	1	5	LNK PROJECT	MEO
	3	19	NA DU	"
POUNG NHEUANG	2	14	PHOU KASAK	"
	3	23	KIO NYA	"
	17	110	NA DU	"
HOUET HIN YOM	2	6	SAYABOURY	"
	6	46	NA DU	"
	2	5	LNK PROJECT	"
LONG SA	14	86	LNK PROJECT	"
	4	26	LNK PROJ.(NO RICE)	"
NONG KHOUAY	4	13	NA DU	LT
	3	17	LNK PROJECT	"
HOUET PHENG	9	52	LUANG PRABANG	"
	40	140	HOUET KHANG	"
NONG KHOUAY	5	26	PHA NO (LS315)	"
	3	13	HOUET KHANG	"



<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. VILLAGE</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>
HOUET LUANG	12	59	HOUET KHANG	LT
HOUET THOUN	1	8	XIENG MOUAK	MEO
	2	12	PHOU KASAK	"
	1	6	KIO NYA	"
	1	8	VILLAGE #3	"
	13	71	VIC VILL.#7	"

TOTAL REFUGEES AT NA DU; 30 FAMILIES 188 PEOPLE  
 TOTAL REFS. HOUET KHANG: 55 " 212 "

#### PAK NEUN

ON 9 DECEMBER BLANKETS, MOSQUITO NETS AND SLEEPING MATS WERE ISSUED TO REFUGEES IN THE PAK NEUN AREA (RE: MONTHLY SITREP--SEPTEMBER; MONTHLY SITREP--OCTOBER). THE FOLLOWING REFUGEES, ALL FROM THE MUONG KASSY AREA, RECEIVED COMMODITIES:

<u>ORIG. VILL.</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>PRES. VILL.</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
PHOU HOK	B. CHIENG	H. SAKAY	23	131	3 HR. WALK E. PAK
HOUET SOU	"	LANG SI	15	67	N. PAK N. BANK MEK
POUNG LA	"	SOUAN MAWN	21	115	2 HR. WALK NE PAK
BAN CHIENG	"	THANG XANG	22	114	NEAR SOUAN MAWN
HOUET LENG	NAMONE	"		"	"
NAM TOUNE	"	"		"	"
HOUET LANH	"	HOUET PHA	20	104	N. PAK BO (QB9614)
TOTALS:			103	531	

THE SITUATION OF THE ABOVE REFUGEES REMAINS THE SAME AS PER T THE REFERENCED SITREPS.

#### RICE SELF-SUFFICIENCY (RE: MONTHLY SITREP--NOVEMBER)

ON 15 DECEMBER A KHOUENG REFUGEE COMMITTEE MEETING WAS HELD TO DISCUSS THE MATTER OF CONTINUED FOOD SUPPORT TO LUANG PRABANG AREA REFUGEES. THE MECHANICS OF THE PROPOSED SURVEY TO DETERMINE THE DEGREE OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY OF REFUGEES NO LONGER ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD SUPPORT EFFECTIVE DECEMBER WAS DISCUSSED AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT EACH CHAO MUONG WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR GATHERING THE REQUIRED INFORMATION.

GENERALLY, THE SUBJECT REFUGEES WERE BROKEN DOWN INTO FOUR CATEGORIES:

- 1) LONG NAM KHAN RELOCATION PROJECT REFUGEES
- 2) HOUET PHAY, THIN KEO AND KHOC PAP
- 3) TEMPORARILY DISPLACED REFUGEES FROM THE PAK OU, PAK XEUANG AND SOPVI AREAS

4) NEW REFUGEES FROM THE NAM KHAN-PHA THEUNG AREA

THE FOLLOWING FOOD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WERE AGREED UPON AS PER KEO VIPHAKONE'S MEMORANDUM DATED 2 NOVEMBER 1972 ON THE SUBJECT OF REFUGEE ASSISTANCE (ATTACHMENT #1):

IT WAS AGREED THAT:

- 1) ADDITIONAL FOOD SUPPORT TO LONG NAM KHAN REFUGEES WOULD BE FORTHCOMING WHEN THEIR FOOD STOCKS ARE DEPLETED.
- 2) THING KEO, HOUET PHAY AND (POSSIBLY) KHOC PAP REFUGEES SHOULD BE COMPLETELY SELF-SUFFICIENT AFTER MORE THAN TWO YEARS RICE SUPPORT. AND THAT FURTHER FOOD ASSISTANCE WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED.
- 3) FOOD SUPPORT TO NEWLY DISPLACED VILLAGERS FROM THE PAK OU-PAK XEUANG-SOPVI AREAS WOULD BE ISSUED FOR A THREE MONTH PERIOD ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH KEO'S DIRECTIVE. THESE REFUGEES WOULD THEREFORE BE ENTITLED TO FOOD SUPPORT FOR THREE MONTHS FOLLOWING THEIR DISPLACEMENT (NOV.-JAN.). HOWEVER, SINCE IT WAS CONSIDERED LIKELY THAT THE REFUGEES WOULD SOON BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME (???) IT WAS AGREED THAT A SPECIAL 3-MONTH DISPENSATION WOULD BE GRANTED TO PROVIDE THE REFUGEES WITH AN ADDITIONAL RICE THROUGH APRIL BY WHICH TIME THEY SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY REESTABLISHED IN THEIR OLD VILLAGES TO PROVIDE FOR THEMSELVES.
- 4) REFUGEES NEWLY DISPLACED THIS YEAR (NEW REFUGEES) WILL RECEIVE FOOD UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THEY ARE ABLE TO RETURN HOME (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE BOUAM XIENG AREA REFUGEES WHO RECEIVED ONE MONTH'S SUPPLY ONLY).

IT WAS FURTHER AGREED THAT REFUGEES SHOULD BE ADVISED TO KEEP IN STOCK SUFFICIENT RICE SEED FOR NEXT YEAR'S RICE CROP.

RETURN HOME

ON 16 DECEMBER THE KING MET WITH GEN. SAYAVONG AND COL. SICHAN TO DISCUSS THE RETURN HOME OF CERTAIN DISPLACED REFUGEES. IN VIEW OF THE QUIET SECURITY SITUATION IN THE PAK XEUANG AREA, THE KING ORDERED REFUGEES FROM THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES TO RETURN HOME:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE (DEC 1 FIGS)</u>
PAK XEUANG	66	340
KHOC KHI NGEUA	38	187
DONE KHOUN	22	140



<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM.</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
KHI LUANG	27	148
BAN LE	23	188
HOUEI SENE	60	315
BAN DANE	32	208
PHA O	41	211
HAT KHO	36	228
	<u>328</u>	<u>1965</u>

THE ORDER WAS ARTICULATED BY COL. SICHAN TO CONCERNED NAIRANS, TASSENGs AND CHAO MUONGS ON 18 DECEMBER AT THE KHOUENG OFFICE. ALTHOUGH CERTAIN VILLAGERS EXHIBITED SOME RELUCTANCE TO MOVE BACK HOME, COL. SICHAN STATED THAT THE KING MADE THE DECISION WITH CAREFULLY CONSIDERED LONG RANGE FACTORS IN MIND, PRIMARILY THE POLITICAL RAMIFICATIONS OF POSSESSING POPULATED AREAS IN THE EVENT OF A CEASEFIRE AND SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS.

IN THIS FRAME OF REFERENCE, COL. SICHAN TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON THE GRAVITY OF THE POLITICAL FUTURE OF LAOS VIS-A-VIS NEGOTIATIONS AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF POPULAR BACKING OF THE RLG IN THE EVENT THAT FUTURE ELECTIONS TAKE PLACE (LP VOTED PL IN 1957).

COL. SICHAN INDICATED THAT REFUGEES WHO REFUSED TO RETURN HOME WOULD NO LONGER BE ELIGIBLE FOR FURTHER FOOD SUPPORT. FOOD DISTRIBUTION WERE MADE ON 21 DECEMBER AND 26 DECEMBER AT HOUEI SENE AND PAK XEUANG, RESPECTIVELY.

THE NAIRAN OF XANG HAI WAS TOLD THAT HIS VILLAGERS COULD RETURN HOME AFTER A SURVEY WAS MADE TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE INFLICTED UPON THE VILLAGE AND THE ABUNDANCE OF UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE, MINES, ETC. IN THE AREA.

COL. SICHAN INDICATED THAT THE VILLAGES NORTH OF PAK XEUANG WOULD PROBABLY BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME IN TWO WEEKS TO ONE MONTH.

#### THONG KHANG AREA

ON 8 DECEMBER A GROUP OF ABOUT 20 PL AND SEVERAL NVA MOVED INTO THE PHA LING (SQ8675) AREA FROM HJOT HOUEI SE-PAK HANG (QB9184). ACCOMPANYING THE ENEMY WERE ABOUT 40 FAMILIES OF THE GROUP OF 190 PHA LING-LONG LUAT FAMILIES (LAO THEUNG) WHO WERE ESCORTED BY THE ENEMY TO THE PAK HANG AREA IN EARLY JULY (RE: SITREP--22 JULY).

THE REPORTED MEKONG RIVER CROSSING POINT OF THE ENEMY IS BAN SONG (RBO786), AND ACCORDING TO A RALLIER FROM THE GROUP THE VILLAGERS AT BOTH ENDS (PHA LING AND PAK HANG) HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH THE PORTERAGE OF SUPPLIES TO THE PHA LING AREA IN PREPARATION FOR A CLEARING OPERATION IN THE THONG KHANG-MUONG NANE AREA AND THE ADJACENT SECTIONS OF THE MEKONG RIVER.

ON 26 DECEMBER A BGR-131 PATROL MADE CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY IN THE PHA LING AREA AND BOTH SIDES SUSTAINED TWO KIA.

THE DEFECTOR REPORTED THAT PHA LING REFUGEES AT PAK HANG HAVE BEEN PLAQUED WITH A HIGH INCIDENCE OF SICKNESS WHICH HAS CLAIMED THE LIVES OF MOST OF THE CHILDREN. THERE IS ALSO REPORTEDLY A LACK OF FOOD IN THE AREA.

PAK LUNG (SG9099) AREA

AFTER THE FALL OF PHOU VAYSOM (QB9196) IN 1968 ENEMY INFLUENCE GRADUALLY SPREAD EASTWARD ALONG THE NAM LUM AND HOUEI LUNG VALLEYS DISPLACING (BY 1971) A NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN THE AREA. SEVERAL OF THE DISPLACED VILLAGES SUCH AS NA KHENE (NAM LUM), NA GEUA (NAM LUM) AND BAN CHONG (HOUEI LUNG) HAVE SINCE RETURNED TO THEIR OLD VILLAGES WHERE THEY COHABITATE WITH THE RLG AND THE PL. OTHER VILLAGES--BAN NA ANG, HOUEI KHON, HOUEI LOK, NA KANG AND HOUEI TAT--HAVE MOVED ALMOST IN THEIR ENTIRETY TO VILLAGES ALONG THE MEKONG RIVER SITUATED A SHORT DISTANCE DOWNSTREAM FROM LUANG PRABANG (SH9500). BAN NA HAI AND BAN NA NHIEU, BOTH FROM THE NAM LUM (RB1393) AREA, HAVE SETTLED IN THE LUANG PRABANG AREA.

THE FIVE VILLAGES THAT RESETTLED IN THE SH9500 AREA REQUESTED AND WERE GIVEN CRS FOODSTUFFS (SALAD OIL AND BULGUR WHEAT) ON 27 DECEMBER FOLLOWING A MARGINAL RICE HARVEST THIS YEAR.

CLEARANCE:

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LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

cc. AC/LP  
WILLIAMSON, ORA  
ORA/LP



TO: JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: AREA REPORT: PHOU CHIA (LS25), THONG KHANG (LS355), AND PHOU HOUA  
MOUEI (LS67)

~~XXXXXXX~~ ~~CHIA~~ (LS25)

I. THONG KHANG (LS355)

THE GREATER THONG KHANG AREA WAS, UNTIL EARLY 1971, CONSIDERED ENEMY DOMAIN. VIRTUALLY THE ONLY FRIENDLY PRESENCE IN THE AREA WAS ~~XXXX~~ A FAR OUTPOST SITUATED AT BAN NA MUONG ( ), AND THIS PRESENCE WAS A RATHER CONTROVERSIAL ONE VIS-A-VIS THE VILLAGERS OF HOUEI SATEP, ( ), BAN DANE ( ), HOUEI HOY ( ), BAN PHANIP ( ) AND BAN HOUEI PONG ( ). IN EARLY 1971 ELEMENTS OF BGR 131, COMMANDED BY MAJ. SIENG MAN NOI SUCCEEDED IN CLEARING MUCH OF THE AREA OF ENEMY AND ESTABLISHED A BASE AT THONG KHANG (LS355). SPORADIC CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY CONTINUED, AND IN ~~SEE~~ SEPTEMBER 1971 THONG KHANG WAS ~~REKTEK~~ LOST BUT QUICKLY RECAPTURED.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION IN THE THONG KHANG AREA ARE LAO THEUNG, WITH A SPRINKLING OF LAO IN SOME OF THE LARGER VILLAGES SUCH AS NA MUONG. WHEN BGR 131 ~~MX~~, PRIMARILY ~~XX~~ COMPOSED OF LAO THEUNG FROM NORTHERN LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE--MOVED INTO THONG KHANG IT BEGAN RECRUITING ABLE-BODIED MEN FROM VILLAGES ~~WKS~~ SITUATED WEST AND SOUTH OF THONG KHANG. AND INTEGRATED THEM INTO THE QUASI-ADO UNIT. HENCE, BY EARLY 1972 SIENG MAN NOI HAD ESTABLISHED GOOD CONTACTS IN ALMOST ALL VILLAGES IN THE AREA.

~~XXXX~~ SIENG MAN NOI'S HOLD ON THE AREA IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY FOLLOWING THE FALL OF KIOCACHAM AND PHOU CHIA IN EARLY 1972. ALMOST 500 XIENG KHOUANG LAO THEUNG MOVED TO THONG KHANG AT THAT TIME. ON 14 MARCH, BGR ~~REKEDXX~~ 131 PLAYED A ROLE IN RECAPTURING PHOU CHIA AND KIOCACHAM BY ~~SEEKING~~ LAUNCHING AN OPERATION OUT OF PHOU CHIA SOUTHEAST INTO THE PHA NGAM AREA. SOME 1000 VILLAGERS IN THE PHA NGAM AREA WERE ENABLED BY THIS ACTION TO ESCAPE TO THONG KHANG. MORE RECENTLY, IN LATE APRIL, THE TASSENG OF PHOU CHIA (A RESIDENT OF BAN PHA HOUNG--SG9767) REQUESTED THAT A CONTINGENT OF BGR 131 TROOPS BE GARISONED AT PHOU DIN DENG (SG9466)

TO PROVIDE SECURITY TO THE SOME 900 PEOPLE IN THE AREA. SINCE THAT TIME, MANY OF THESE PEOPLE, MEO, HAVE MOVED INX TO THE VICINITY OF THE OUTPOST.

SIENG MAN NOI HAS ALSO ESTABLISHED OUTPOSTS IN THE PREDOMINANTLY MEO AREA ~~SITUATED~~ IN THE HILLS ~~OVERLOOKING~~ BETWEEN THE MUONG NANE ROAD AND THE MEKONG VALLEY.



To: Jack Williamson

From: F. Benson

Subj: Luang Prabang Lao Theung

Date: ca. mid-1972

Most of the local SGU soldiers in Luang Prabang (about 75% of the total) are refugees, mainly Lao Theung, from northern Luang Prabang and Phong Saly Provinces. Accordingly, most of the Lao Theung refugees from these areas are military dependents. With the winding down of the war in the wake of the 21 February 1973 ceasefire and the prospects of a settlement which may provide for the introduction of SGU units into FAR and the eventual demobilization of a portion of the armed forces several questions of concern are raised which, in this case, center around the future of the irregular soldiers and the families, and, consequently, the future of a majority of the area's Lao Theung refugees.

As SGU units are integrated into FAR it has been surmised that at least forty percent of the active manpower will immediately opt for an early out due to the fact that many of the benefits previously enjoyed—higher pay, dependent rice, etc.—would be terminated. The length of service of those who choose to integrate is likely to be contingent upon two, and possibly three factors: 1) the enactment and implementation of provisions permitting SGU officers to retain as FAR soldiers their SGU rank and position, 2) the interest in, and ability of the rank and file to return to their original villages, and 3) the availability of alternative sources of income (farming, day labor, etc.) if troops elect to resign and remain in the Luang Prabang area.

Regarding point number one, early indications are that MR-I is prepared to accept into FAR only those Lao Theung officers who are willing to settle for reductions in rank and positions of lesser authority. These requisite factors have caused considerable concern amongst the Lao Theung SGU officers who believe that years of training, experience, leadership responsibility and loyalty entitles them to something more than rank-and-file positions.

While service with the irregular army has, for all intents and purposes, served to define and strengthen the Lao Theung ethnic infrastructure it is not fully integrated into the infrastructure of the RLG. What progress the Lao Theung have realized over the years in this respect the disbandment of the irregular forces would likely lead to a loss of status for SGU commanders. None of the Lao Theung ethnic leaders (with one or two exceptions) hold an official position within the civil administrative or military branches of the RLG.

By the same token, the Lao Theung leadership loyal to the RLG is quick to realize that they are not the only ones who face this problem. Many of the Lao Theung leaders appointed by the Pathet Lao as civil servants and military leaders also stand to lose their jobs within the formation of a new government and the demobilization of the army.

The local Luang Prabang Lao Theung, although fervently against the Pathet Lao's cause, respect steps taken by the PL to further the stature of the Lao Theung ethnic minority. The search for Lao Theung

ethnic self-identification in Luang Prabang province stretches back in recent history to rebellions against abuse by the French and Vietnamese in the late 1940s and, more recently, to the emergence of Issara and Chouang movements of the 1950s and early 1960s. The movements were capitalized upon with some success by the NVA and PL, while service with paramilitary forces has served to define and strengthen the Lao Theung ethnic infrastructure and enabled local Lao Theung to further their ethnic cause within the framework of the RLG.

In addition to their responsibilities as military leaders, certain of these individuals also have held responsibilities as civilian/ethnic leaders. Indeed, several of them were recruited on this basis, while others gained prominence as ethnic leaders through their position as military leaders. As recruiting officers and military commanders, all of them bear responsibility to the families of their soldiers.

Points number two and three above bear a certain similarity insofar as discharged soldiers would be immediately challenged by the necessity of providing for their families regardless of whether or not they elect to return to their original villages. Even if the ex-soldiers have access to land and have ample time to plant a rice crop this year there would be a gap of, say, six months during which time they would be without rice (which currently sells in LP for 9000 kip/bag. The forty percent referred to above who would opt out of continued duty would involve at least 700 families, and it is likely that most of them do not have the means to support themselves. Consequently, many of these people would be in a precarious position as far as subsistence is concerned for at least eighteen months (the time it would take to relocate and harvest their first crop).

Insofar as most of the military dependents are old refugees and would at this point most likely be classified as “indigents”—who do not qualify for refugee relief food support for extended periods of time—they might find themselves in a critical situation.

In summary, many Lao Theung, who have over the years faithfully served the RLG (and supportive American) cause in Luang Prabang Province, are gravely concerned about their future and are fearful of abandonment at this critical juncture by both the RLG and the Americans.



ca 1972

F. Benson

Luang Prabang 1964 - 1969

Between 1964 and 1965, Lao Ta (LS-121), Mak Phout (LS-137) and Nam Thuan (LS-176) were relatively secure, as was Ban Pha Thong (LS-169), located north of Nam Bac.

As there was a great deal of interest in recapturing Nam Bac, an effort was made to build up these areas as a jumping-off point for an operation to retake Nam Bac. Lieutenant Lee Ma, based at Nam Thuan, was a key figure in the execution of these initial efforts.

While forces were being readied in the areas north and south of Nam Bac (Operation Prasane), General Vang Pao pushed from the east in an operation designed to connect Sam Neua with Nam Bac, hence the name, "Operation Sink-Up." Phon Saly (LS-178) <sup>which was opened in mid 1965,</sup> served as base of operation along with Houei Thong (LS-196) and Houei Thong Kho (LS-184).

On January 1, 1966, Lao Ta fell to the enemy. A see-saw battle between Ban Pha Thong (under Captain Xeng Chan), Ban Y (LS-187),

Xienq Than (LS-188) and Ban Chuk Chung (LS-138) developed.

In February, Mok Plai (LS-193) was retaken and almost immediately Meo and Jao Theung refugees began to filter in from the outlying areas. One month later Mok Plai was captured by the enemy.

Meanwhile, in January, 1966, Bouam Jao (LS-174) was lost and ~~the~~ refugees from that area moved to Mok Jot (LS-131), ~~at~~ a site which was part of the operation Link-Up (Prasane?). In late February, however, the enemy took Mok Jot and the refugees moved to Ban Kok. Prior to the fall of Bouam Jao, friendly forces were scattered up and down the <sup>Nam</sup> Beng valley; based out of Pak Beng.

In southeastern Quang Prabang Province, 1966 witnessed the fall of Muong Hien (LS-48 A). ~~at~~ Muong Hien was, at the time, ~~under~~ controlled by the Neutralists under Souvanna Phouma's nephew.



In February, 1966, Houa Muong in Sam Neua fell and 3000-4000 refugees moved to Muong Heim. Shortly thereafter, Na Khang was attacked and Vang Pao pulled back to Muong Heim. ~~This~~ ~~Vang Pao's~~ move precipitated enemy pressure being placed on Muong Heim which was attacked and captured by the enemy on March 15. During the attack Souanna Phouma's nephew was killed (perhaps by his own troops).

about 1400  
Tai Phuan  
from  
Tasseng Tham La  
moved out of  
Na Khang and  
proceeded to  
Muong Heim,  
where they remained  
for 6-8 months  
before moving  
to a point just  
south of Muong  
Heim.

Several thousand  
Refugees from the Muong Heim  
area, ~~as well as from~~ were evacuated  
by caribou to Phone Say (LS-211),  
Sa Pa Ka (LS-33) and to Vang Veng.  
Some of the Muong Heim refugees  
filtered into Phu Cum (LS-50) where  
they joined refugees from LS-219,  
which was also lost at the same  
time as Muong Heim.

A short time later, in May (?),  
Muong Heim and Na Khang  
were recaptured by Vang Pao.  
During the subsequent period,  
Muong Heim ~~lost~~ became  
the "melting pot" for refugees from

eastern Luang Prabang and  
 Sam Neua Province. Indeed,  
 an operation led by Colonel  
 Chansema in February and March  
 attempted to recapture Muong  
 Son (L-59) in Sam Neua.

The some 3000 refugees which resulted  
 moved to Muong Hien.

An agreement was reached by the  
 RLG that Neutralist forces in  
 Muong Hien would bow out in  
 favor of FAR and AC troops.

Muong Yon, located  
 on the Nam Khan  
 west of LS-50,  
 was also captured  
 by French at this  
 time.

During the summer of 1966, ~~the~~  
 Nam Bac was recaptured by  
 GM-25 under ~~Colonel~~ Colonel Khamphay,  
 who attained his objective by moving  
 down from Pha Thong to Nam  
~~Pha~~ Thouam and from there to  
 Nam Bac.

After Nam Bac was retaken, a  
 push toward Muong Ngoi was  
 carried out under the command  
 of Colonel Hounpheng (560). The  
 operation resulted in failure.

Another operation <sup>from Nam Bac</sup> to retake Ban  
 Chuk Chung (LS-138), <sup>located</sup> south of



Saotab ended in failure also,

(LS-233?)  
By late 1966, an airstrip was built near Sam Pa Ka and some of the ~~Refugees~~ ~~Heim~~ refugees located in Muong Heim moved there.

Colonel Park, the Chao Khoueng of Sam Neua, wanted to make Muong Heim a base of operations for Sam Neua. His plan fell through, however.

In December, 1966 RLG forces retook Muong Het in Northeastern Sam Neua Province and some 300-400 refugees were flown from there to Muong Heim.

In January 1967 it was decided to push Operation Link-Up west out of LS-178 and LS-194 along the Nam Seng. Concurrently, BV-16 under Colonel Bounpheng moved eastward up the Nam Xuang and Nam Seng. The MR-II troops captured several villages

(6)

along the Nam Seng, such as Ban Sae (LS-225), <sup>a trading village</sup> ~~a village~~. An airstrip was built at Ban Sae, and about 700 refugees moved into Ban Sae from the surrounding areas.

MR II forces moving westward to Phou Seng from Ban Sae encountered heavy resistance from PL/NVA forces who were fearful of losing their supply lines along the Nam Ou and Nam Seng.

In April, 1967, the enemy attacked Ban Sae at 0600 and burned the village down. Prior to the fall of Ban Sae, most of the ~~village~~ villagers moved to a point about one-half day's walk to the east. Only about 200 people were able to flee to friendly territory. Those who had moved to the east returned to their old villages. Those who fled went to LS-178 and LS-194 where they remained for one month before being flown by Porter from LS-194 to Muong Heim.



Of Those who remained, about 6 or 8 were killed by the enemy. Medic Tao Tao, who had previously been captured by the enemy, put a hand grenade under his armpit and blew himself up rather than be captured by the enemy a second time.

The move east directed by Col. Bounpheng was doomed to failure also. Many of the villagers in the area had already been moved by the enemy to the Muong Ngoi area. ~~Of those~~ Of those few who remained in the Sopstick and Napho areas, some moved out to Pak Meut. The enemy previously utilized Sop Tick as a trading center, a point where goods from Luang Prabang could be brought.

It was even rumored that an NVA officer married a Sopstick girl.

In November, 1967, FAR launched an operation east of LS-196 and LS-178 on the upper reaches of the Nam Xuang in the Pak Lao

and Muong Mouei areas, about 2000 Lao Theung who were living in the area, old and young people only, ~~and took~~ came out and were taken to LS-178 and LS-196, and finally flown from LS-196 to Muong Hei.

another operation was also directed south of LS-196 the the point where the Nam Xuang goes east and west. This area consisted largely of Lao Theung originally from the LS-178 and LS-196 areas settled around Mok Chien and Mok Kha. Although most of the 4000-5000 Lao Theung in the area ran off as RLG forces approached, there was a constant trickle of refugees from this area into LS-196.

Indeed, Lao Theung from this area ~~harvested rice~~ were sent to harvest rice in the Mok Kha area which the RLG forces ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> planning to ~~burn~~ burn as it stood in the fields.



After the fall of Nam Bac in January 1968, RLG forces moved back into the 187 and LS-217 areas and began to fan out in an attempt to curtail enemy construction work on a road leading from Dien Bien Phu to Muong Khoua in Phongsaly Province. At one point, friendlies moved into LS-253 and considered infiltrating teams into Dien Bien Phu, itself. RLG remained in the area for 5-6 months, during which time approximately 100 military dependents moved into LS-253, as did a group of 8-Kaw (who were later to be transferred to 20 A).

for his part, Vang Pao, ~~from the east~~, pulled his troops back from the left bank of the Nam Ou when Nam Bac was lost, but

During the latter part of 1967 (November), FAR launched an

operation east of LS-196 and LS-178  
in the upper reaches of the Nam  
Xuang in the Pak Sap and Muong  
Moi area. During the course of  
the operation

after the fall of Nam Bac in January,  
1968, RLG forces moved north to  
the LS-187 and LS-217 area and  
began to expand their effective zone  
of control in an attempt to hinder  
enemy efforts to construct a road  
linking Muong Khona with Dien  
Bien Phu.

continued to send <sup>out</sup> patrols from  
the LS-196 and LS-178 area.  
Ban Sae (LS-225) was retaken at  
this time, and the people who  
were unable to flee during the  
1966 crisis there, numbering  
some 400 people, came out at this  
time.

An attempt was made to move  
into the territory between the  
Nam Seng and the Nam Ou, a ~~pred~~  
predominantly Meo and Lao



Thoung area. The objective of this ~~op~~ move was to establish contact with the several thousand people living there. This strategy fell through, however, when one of Vang Pao's lieutenants dispatched T-28s to bomb the villages in the area. None of the villagers came out.

In January 1968, Muong Hien was attacked by the enemy utilizing mortars and B-40 rockets. Hostile forces succeeded in destroying the RLG position under Colonel Phanh, as well as the ammunition dump. They made no attempt, however, to burn down the villages or capture the some 6000 refugees located there.

The refugees fled Muong Hien and moved to a point 5-6 hours' walk <sup>to the</sup> south. Two days later, FAR troops reoccupied Muong Hien and proceeded to loot

everything in sight. The civilian population was not permitted to return.

In late 1968, the Muong Hien refugees had established themselves at a STOL strip built along the river at ———.

In May or June 1969, the enemy moved into the area and the Muong Hien refugees went to LS-219, and finally to LS-272. A short time earlier, LS-36 fell along with LS-33 and all of the refugees ~~moved~~ at these sites ~~joined~~ joined with the Muong Hien refugees.

Further north, the situation around LS-196 and LS-178 deteriorated, &

Meanwhile, in northern Quang Pratzung Province work on the road to Muong Khona neared completion and the enemy began to move in increasing quantities of troops and supplies.



CS-187 and CS-217 fell to the advancing enemy, trapping nearly half of the some 6,000 people in the area. Groups of the military dependents in the area were evacuated by airplane to Bonam Xieny and Lat Kote near Luang Prabang. Other refugees walked to CS-169.

CS-169, Ban Pha Theung, was the only remaining Lao Theung stronghold in northern L.P., and was under the leadership of Lao Theung ~~leaders~~ such as Xieny Phan, Xieny Mang Noi and Xieny Chan. Approximately 20,000 people were located in the area.

Enemy pressure continued, however, and Pha Theung fell. What resulted ~~is~~ is probably one of the darkest chapters of recent Lao history. Only 3,000 of the 20,000 people in the area were able to escape to CS-137, where they were airlifted to L.P. ~~The~~

~~Delet this matter to case~~

In 1969, an operation was launched out of 15-213 toward Sep Vi, an area which had long been under enemy control. Very few villagers came out of the area.



TO: JOHN W, MACQUEEN, AD/RA

1972 ?

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: PHI (KHA) THONG LEUANG--SPIRITS OF THE MELLOW LEAVES

ON 28 MAY THIS REPORTER JOURNEYED TO SAYABOURY AND INTERVIEWED TWO MEMBERS OF A GROUP OF THIRTY PHI THONG LEUANG WHO RECENTLY SOUGHT REFUGE IN SAYABOURY CITY.

ORIGINALLY FROM THE NALE (QA7170) AREA, THE "REFUGEES" STATED REASONS FOR FLEEING WERE TWO:

- 1) FEAR OF TIGERS
- 2) RECENT HARASSMENT BY P.L.

ELEVEN OUT OF THE TWELVE REFUGEES WERE WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE ~~CRSOME MEMBER~~ *MENFOLK OF THE GROUP* WERE ALL DEAD, HAVING BEEN KILLED EITHER BY TIGERS OR BY THE P.L. WITH REGARDS TO THE LATTER, THE PHI THONG LEUANG RECENTLY ENCOUNTERED AN ENEMY PATROL WHICH ATTEMPTED TO RECRUIT ONE OF THE MEN. UPON REFUSING TO JOIN THE ENEMY'S RANKS, ONE OF THE REFUGEES INTERVIEWED STATED THAT THE P.L. SHOT HIM IN THE HEAD. THIS INCIDENT IS INTERESTING INSOFAR AS IT IS VERY UNLIKELY THAT THE PHI THONG LEUANG, A PRIMITIVE, NOMADIC FOREST PEOPLE, ~~HAVE EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CONCEPTION~~ WHO HAVE LITTLE IF ANY CONTACT WITH PEOPLE OUTSIDE OF THEIR OWN GROUP, WOULD HAVE EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CONCEPTION OF THE MILITARY/POLITICAL FORCES STRUGGLING IN LAOS. IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT THEY WOULD RESIST RECRUITMENT INTO THE ARMY WHEN THEY MAKE A POINT OF AVOIDING CONTACT WITH ~~OTHER PEOPLE~~ OUTSIDERS.

Mr. John W. MacQueen, AD/RA

February 9, 1973

F. C. Benson, ORA/LP

ORA/LP Monthly Report - January 1973

1. Kio Nya and Xieng Ngeun attacked morning of 3 January, precipitating movement of 4,461 Xieng Ngeun villagers to Luang Prabang where they moved in with relatives. Kio Nya refugees (Meo) totaling 1,379 people moved to Na Luang (Km 3). A total of 676 Kio Nya Meo moved to Phou Din Deng (SG9365) after escaping from the enemy at Kio Nya on 8 January. 735 Kio Nya Lao Theung moved temporarily to Pak Vet, but returned to Kio Nya on about the 18th January. All of the Xieng Ngeun area refugees are self-sufficient villagers who had not previously received rice support; 1,078 of the Kio Nya refugees were self-sufficient and likewise did not previously receive food support. An additional 450 new refugees fled from the Phou Kasak area to Xieng Mouak.

2. 732 new refugees from the Pha Keng and Kio Nya areas were temporarily relocated at Pak Vet but have since moved into Xieng Ngeun. 1,044 other new Lao Theung refugees who temporarily relocated at Pak Vet have since returned home to the Kio Nya, LNK and Xieng Ngeun areas.

3. A total of 393 Long Nam Khan refugees moved to Pak Vet. 96 LNK refugees moved to Xieng Mouak. The balance LNK refugees remained in their villages. All LNK refugees have returned home.

Rice, blankets, sleeping mats, and mosquito nets were issued to all refugees.

A total of 9,290 refugees were displaced, of which number 7,765 were new refugees.

All of the refugees have returned home with the exception of Meo at Na Luang and Xieng Mouak and Lao Theung at Xieng Ngeun.

All refugees were ordered by RLG on 18 January to return home.

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An order was issued on 24 Jan. by RLG for all Pak Ou area refugees to return home. To date none of the refugees have been able to move due to tenuous security situation in area.

cc: AC/LP



TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA

15 FEBRUARY 1973

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: SITREP--1 JANUARY-15 FEBRUARY

XIENG NGEUN AREA

AT 0315 HOURS ON THE MORNING OF 3 JANUARY ENEMY FORCES ATTACKED XIENG NGEUN AND OCCUPIED THE TOWN AND ADJACENT VILLAGES. THE ATTACK WAS PRECEDED AT 0600 HOURS ON THE 2nd BY A ROCKET ATTACK AGAINST WHAT THE ENEMY BELIEVED WERE FAR POSITIONS NEAR KOK NGIEU AND XIENG LOM. THE ENEMY, MOSTLY PL (PRIMARYLY LAO THEUNG), ORDERED XIENG NGEUN'S INHABITANTS TO REMAIN IN THEIR HOUSES AND SYSTEMATECALLY LOOTED LOCAL SHOPS AND STORES. THE CHAO MUONG'S RESIDENCE AND OFFICE WERE DESTROYED, AS WAS THE OLD CDAA HOUSE.

GOVERNMENT UNITS LAUNCHED A COUNTERATTACK AGAINST ENEMY FORCES OCCUPYING XIENG NGEUN AND SUCCEEDED IN REOCCUPYING THE TOWN BY THE AFTERNOON OF THE 3rd. REFUGEES FROM ADJACENT VILLAGES BEGAN MOVING TO LUANG PRABANG BY TAXI AROUND NOON. VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE REFUGEES, LISTED BY VILLAGE BELOW, MOVED IN WITH RELATIVES IN LUANG PRABANG.

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
XIENG NGEUN	TG0587	120	805	NEW
PAK KHAN	TG0588	42	253	"
PHONESANOUK	TG0486	44	258	"
BAN MOUT	TG0591	91	505	"
BAN VET	TG0489	131	872	"
DONE MO	TG0687	130	803	"
NA KHA	TG0385	27	145	"
NA DUE	TG0387	8	41	"
CIVIL SERVICE		55	301	"
HOUEI HIA	TG0685	35	238	"
PA PHAY		19	114	"
HOUEI COAT	TG0386	25	126	"
		<u>727</u>	<u>4461</u>	

ON 4 JANUARY A REFUGEE KHOUENG COMMITTEE MEETING WAS CALLED TO DISCUSS EMERGENCY RELIEF SUPPORT TO THE XIENG NGEUN AREA REFUGEES. IT WAS DECIDED THAT ONE WEEK'S FOOD SUPPORT WOULD BE ISSUED TO THE NEW REFUGEES IN ADDITION TO BLANKETS, MOSQUITO NETS AND SLEEPING MATS, AND THAT IN VIEW OF THE SELF-SUFFICIENT STATUS OF THE REFUGEES FOOD SUPPORT WOULD BE TERMINATED AS SOON AS THE REFUGEES RETURNED HOME. WITH THE GENERALLY IMPROVED SITUATION BY 8 JANUARY GENERAL SAYAVONG ANNOUNCED THAT ALL OF THE REFUGEES SHOULD RETURN HOME. FOLLOWING THE 8 JANUARY CUT OFF DATE NO XIENG NGEUN REFUGEES WERE ELEGIBLE FOR

FOR FOOD ISSUES. AFTER THE ISSUANCE OF THE 8 JANUARY ORDER MOST OF THE XIENG NGEUN REFUGEES BEGAN FILTERING BACK TO THEIR VILLAGES AND BY THE END OF THE MONTH ALL HAD RETURNED HOME WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE WHO POSSESSED THE MEANS AND HAD THE DESIRE TO CONTINUE ON TEMPORARILY IN LUANG PRABANG.

AT 0230 HOURS ON THE SAME DAY AS THE XIENG NGEUN ATTACK THE ENEMY ATTACKED KIO NYA AND A NUMBER OF THE LOCAL INHABITANTS WERE CAPTURED AND HELD AT KIO NYA. THE PRIMARY GROUP DETAINED--BAN PA AY NYAI (1/12), PHA LANG MOU NOI (24/143), KIOTALEUN (33/246), THONGSATA (6/38), KIOTALEUN NEUA (7/47), AND HOUEI PHAT (23/190)--MANAGED TO ESCAPE DURING THE NIGHT OF THE 6th (?) TO PHOU DIN DENG (SG9365). THE REFUGEES STATED THAT THE ENEMY PLANNED TO ESCORT THE DETAINEES TO THE NONG HET AREA. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF KIOTALEUN NEUA (12/84), HOUEI PHAT (10/79) AND PHA LANG MOU NOI (2/13) ALL OF THE ABOVE GROUPS RETURNED TO KIO NYA ON 27 JANUARY. THOSE WHO REMAINED AT PHOU DIN DENG ELECTED TO DO SO IN ORDER TO GROW HIGHLAND RICE ON THE WESTERN SLOPES OF PHOU DIN DENG MOUNTAIN. POTS, PANS, ETC., WERE ISSUED TO THIS GROUP OF REFUGEES ON 13 FEBRUARY. ON 10 FEBRUARY RICE WAS SENT TO THE GROUP THAT RETURNED TO KIO NYA.

OTHER KIO NYA REFUGEES MOVED TO NALUANG (TG0099), XIENG MOUAK ~~SG9794~~ (SG9794) AND PAK VET (TG0489). KIO NYA ME0 BEGAN FILTERING INTO NALUANG ON 5 JANUARY. DURING THE COURSE OF THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS SOME 224 FAMILIES 1379 PEOPLE MOVED INTO ~~KIO~~ THE TEMPORARY RELLOCATION AREA ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF LUANG PRABANG:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
PHOU LIN	MUONG YOU	MUONG YOU	15	91	OLD REFS
PHA LANG MOU NOI	DANE KHOUA	XIENG NGEUN	1	1	"
PHA LANG MOU NYAI	"	"	32	175	"
PHA CHAO	"	"	9	52	"
PHA AY NYAI	"	"	12	72	"
PHOUNG NHEUANG		LUANG PRABANG	1	8	NEW REFS
NAM MUONG NYAI	LONG YA	MUONG SAI	9	64	"
NAM MUONG NOI	"	"	7	54	"
NAM PHOUK NOI	"	"	4	31	"
NAM PHOUK NYAI	"	"	17	122	"
LAO YA NOI	"	"	10	59	"
HOUEI OUNE	"	"	13	73	"
NA KAY THING	"	"	9	26	"
SOUNG CHA	"	"	14	67	"
LAO THE NYAI	"	"	18	103	"
PHOU TA CHIA	"	"	5	36	"
PHOU LAK NEUA		VIENG <del>MM</del> FA	3	19	"
POM TAO		(XIENG KHOUANG)	8	54	"



<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
LAO YIA		VIENG CHA	15	110	NEW REFS
HOUET TAT		"	11	95	"
KIO KHANG		"	2	20	"
PHOU LAK TAI		"	9	46	"

OTHER KIO NYA REFUGEES TOTALLING 16 FAMILIES AND 99 PEOPLE MOVED TO XIENG MOUAK BEGINNING ON THE 9th.

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
PHA CHAO	DANE KHOUA	XIENG NGEUN	<del>28</del> 4	22 <del>4</del>	<del>NEW REFS</del> OLD
THONGSATA	"	"	5	45	"
PHA VAI	"	"	7	32	"

NEW REFUGEES FROM THE PHOU KASAK AREA (TGO378) TOTALLING 79 FAMILIES AND 450 PEOPLE MOVED TO XIENG MOUAK FROM THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
PHOU KASAK		XIENG NGEUN	38	224	NEW REFS
NAM OK HOU		"	40	219	"
NAM SOUAY		"	1	7	"

MEO VILLAGES THAT DID NOT LEAVE THE PHA KASAK AREA INCLUDE BAN PHA DENG KASAK, HOUEI SEUN, NAM CHAN AND HOUEI HIN NYONG. IT APPEARS AS THOUGH THE PHOU KASAK MEO LEFT THEIR VILLAGES PRIOR TO ANY ATTACK BY THE ENEMY (ABOUT 50 WHITE STAR VINTAGE ADO ARE LOCATED AT PHOU KASAK), AND THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE ENEMY ACTUALLY OCCUPIED ANY OF THE VILLAGES ALTHOUGH THEY MAY HAVE PASSED THROUGH THEM.

LAO THEUNG REFUGEES FROM KIO NYA ORIGINATING FROM THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES SOUGHT REFUGE AT PAK VET BEGINNING ON 4 JANUARY:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
PAK KANG	DANE KHOUA	XIENG NGEUN	24	144	NEW REFS
HOUET NA	"	"	9	50	"
NAM SA O	"	"	13	41	"
KIOTALEUN	"	"	26	119	"
PHOU KANG	"	"	17	99	"
NAM SALY	"	"	12	79	"
PHA AI NOI	"	"	15	82	"
THONGSATA	"	"	23	121	"
LONGSATA	"	"	7	43	"
			<u>146</u>	<u>778</u>	



BETWEEN 6 AND 8 FEBRUARY ALL OF THE KIO NYA AND XIENG MOUAK MEO WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE MUONG SAI GROUP WERE SENT BY RENTED TRUCKS TO THE RECEPTION CENTER AT HOUEI COAT IN RESPONSE TO AN ORDER (18 JANUARY) OF LONG STANDING BY GENERAL SAYAVONG THAT THE KIO NYA REFUGEES MOVE OUT OF LUANG PRABANG AND THE XIENG MOUAK DAM SITE. UPON ARRIVING AT HOUEI COAT THE REFUGEES RECEIVED ONE MONTH'S SUPPLY OF FOODSTUFFS AND REQUIRED REFUGEE COMMODITIES. THE MUONG SAI GROUP DID NOT RETURN TO KIO NYA DUE TO THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO AVAILABLE LAND IN THE AREA ON WHICH TO GROW HIGHLAND RICE. THEIR INITIAL REQUEST TO MOVE TO THE PHOU NANG VANG AREA (WEST OF PHOU DAM) WAS SHOT DOWN BY COL. SICHAN ON 22 JANUARY ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE AREA IS INSECURE AND THE REFUGEES HAVE SINCE DECIDED TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF MOVING TO SAYABOURY. THE TASSENG OF LONG YA, THE REFUGEE LEADER, TRAVELLED TO SAYABOURY ON 13 FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THE PROVINCIAL MSW REPRESENTATIVE. THE TASSENG RETURNED ON 14 FEBRUARY AND REPORTED A FAVORABLE RESPONSE FROM MSW/SYBY.

THE PAK VET LAO THEUNG RETURNED TO KIO NYA BY ARMY TRUCK ON 18 JANUARY AFTER THE ORDER TO RETURN HOME HAD BEEN ISSUED. ONE MONTH'S SUPPLY OF FOODSTUFFS WAS ISSUED TO THEM ON 26 JANUARY AT XIENG NGEUN.

DETAILS OF THE COURSE OF EVENTS WHICH TRANSPIRED IN THE LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME FOLLOWING THE ATTACK AGAINST XIENG NGEUN ARE SOMEWHAT VAGUE ALTHOUGH IT DOES APPEAR THAT SMALL GROUPS OF PL ENTERED EVERY VILLAGE ALONG THE MUONG NANE ROAD AS FAR AS VILLAGE #5. DURING THE NIGHT OF THE 3rd IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE ENEMY CAME AS FAR AS VILLAGE #3; AT THAT TIME HAT KHAM (#4), MUONG YOU (#4) AND DANE KHOUA (#5) REFUGEES TALLING SOME 150 PERSONS LEFT THEIR VILLAGES AND MADE THEIR WAY TO MUONG NANE WHERE THEY REMAINED FOR SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE TRAVELLING BY BOAT TO LUANG PRABANG. DURING THE NIGHT OF THE 5th-6th THE PL PROBED A BV-12 PLATOON-SIZED UNIT POSITIONED AT PHOU SALALECK (SG9473) WHICH RESULTED IN THE MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES FROM VILLAGE #11 (PHA HOUNG, 65/364) TO THE PHOU DIN DENG AREA AND ALL REFUGEES FROM VILLAGE #12 (PHOU KOUB, 21/131; CHANG OUAN NOI, 17/80; HOUEI MO, 5/18; NAM PLONG, 11/51; SOUAN KAFE, 18/95; KIO MUONG, 22/100; AND HOUEI TAO, 22/132) TO MOVE TO BAN DANE (RB1466) AND THONG KHANG (LS355). BY 8 JANUARY REFUGEES AT THONG KHANG HAD BECOME FEARFUL OF AN ENEMY ATTACK AND MOVED OUT EN MASSE TO A POINT BETWEEN THONG KHANG AND MUONG NANE. THE THONG KHANG AND VILLAGE #12 REFUGEES REMAINED AWAY FROM HOME ONLY A SHORT TIME, HOWEVER, AND BEGAN RETURNING HOME ON THE 11th.

THE ONLY OTHER MAJOR GROUPS OF REFUGEES WHICH LEFT THE LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY WERE FROM VILLAGE #3 (PHOU NGOUA, 7/28) AND VILLAGE #6 (PAK BENG, 5/27), BAN PHOU SOUNG, 5/32; BAN KIENG KHAY, 2/5; AND BAN NAM



THY, 1/4). THESE REFUGEES WALKED OVERLAND TO XIENG MOUAK WHERE THEY REMAINED FOR MORE THAN TEN DAYS BEFORE RETURNING HOME. IN ADDITION, VILLAGES #1 AND #2 WERE ABLE TO ESCAPE TO PAK VET AFTER LOCAL T-28 SUPPORT PRECIPITATED THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE SOME 25 ENEMY OPERATING IN THE AREA: *(Returned home on 18 January)*

	<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
#1	INSATEP	16	81
	KIO TEUY	45	162
#2	HOUEI KANE	20	88
	HOUEI KOK	18	76
	HOUEI LUANG NEUA	56	246

OTHER SCATTERED GROUPS OF REFUGEES, FEARFUL OF ANOTHER ATTACK BY THE ENEMY, MOVED FROM THEIR VILLAGES: AFTER XIENG NGEUN WAS RETAKEN:

	<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRESENT LOCATION</u>
#5	DANE KHOVA	4	30	SAYABOURY
	"	1	7	XIENG NGEUN
	"	9	66	LUANG PRABANG
#6	PAK LENG	1	11	#1 HOUEI KANG
	"	3	21	PHOU KASAK AREA
#6	NAM THY NEUA	2	15	#12 HOUEI SATEP
#7	KENG KHAY	1	7	XIENG NGEUN
	"	2	12	HOUEI TAO (TGO289)
#7	HOUEI NA	3	11	DONE MO
#7	HIN LECK	1	7	DONE MO
#10	PHA HOUNG	21	133	NAM SANAN (SG9873)
#12	HOUEI MO	4	16	THONG KHANG
#12	NAM PLONG	3	13	THONG KHANG

VARIOUS OTHER REFUGEE GROUPS, MOSTLY INDIGENOUS NON-REFUGEES, ALSO SOUGHT REFUGE AT PAK VET FROM THE SURROUNDING AREA:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
HOUEI HIA	32	208	NEW REFS
HOUEI KEUP	24	128	"
HOUEI TOK	20	89	"
HOUEI COAT	34	172	"
HOUEI LA	19	115	"
#5 LNK	3	26	"
#2 LNK B.PHONE	2	16	"
#1 LNK H.KANG	24	127	"
PHOUNG NHEUANG	6	30	"
KIO NYA	2	11	"
PHA KASAK	6	33	"
SIENE KOUNX KOUN	6	26	"
BAN VET	8	52	"
	<u>186</u>	<u>1033</u>	

THE ONLY REFUGEES CURRENTLY LOCATED AT XIENG NGEUN ARE NEW REFUGEES MOSTLY FROM THE PHA KENG (TG2857) AREA (SEE KIOCACHAM BELOW):

VILLAGE	TASSENG	MUONG	FAMILIES	PEOPLE	STATUS
KIO MAK NAO		XIENG NGEUN	44	288	FROM (TG0877)
PHOU KHOUA		"	13	91	
SAY THONG NEUA	CHOMKHAM	"	4	29	VIA LSO4
TANG OUEI NOI	"	"	3	19	"
THONGSATA	"	"	2	13	"
TAO PHOUN	"	"	22	122	"
PHA KENG	"	"	14	85	"
THAM LOUP	"	"	5	34	"
PAK BAC	PAK BAC	"	43	259	
PAK SA	PAK SA	"	4	4	
SA PHEUNE		"	7	14	
			161	958	

IT APPEARS AS THOUGH THE ENEMY'S OBJECTIVES IN THEIR ATTACK AGAINST XIENG NGEUN WERE THREEFOLD:

- 1) TO DISPLAY THEIR CAPABILITY TO ATTACK AND SECURE A KEY AREA IN THE VICINITY OF LUANG PRABANG AND TO DISRUPT THE EFFECTIVE RLQ ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM IN THE AREA,
- 2) TO CAPTURE AS MANY CIVILIANS AS POSSIBLE AND ESCORT THEM TO THE "LIBERATED ZONE" SO AS TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THEIR HAND IN THE PROVINCE POLITICALLY THROUGH POPULATION CONTROL, AND
- 3) TO TIE DOWN RESERVES WHICH COULD BE DEPLOYED TO THE PHOU KHOUN FRONT.

EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT THE ENEMY PLANNED TO HOLD XIENG NGEUN AND PUSH AS FAR NORTH AS KOK NGIEU (?). THE RAPID RESPONSE FROM FAR, HOWEVER, CAUSED THE BULK OF THE ATTACKING FORCE TO WITHDRAW TO THE PAK BAC AREA.

WITH RESPECT TO POINT (3), INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE ONLY REFUGEES CAPTURED WERE 4 FAMILIES 17 PEOPLE FROM BAN PHA HOUNG, #11 LONG NAM KHAN, AND 4 FAMILIES 28 PEOPLE FROM PHA LANG MOU NOI (KIO NYA). THE PHA HOUNG REFUGEES WERE VISITING KIO NYA AT THE TIME OF THEIR CAPTURE. ESCAPEES INCLUDE 5 RETIRED SOLDIERS FROM HOUOI LUANG NEUA, LONG NAM KHAN #2. ACCORDING TO REFUGEES FROM VILLAGES #1 AND #2, LONG NAM KHAN, THE PL STATED THAT THEIR INTENTIONS THIS TIME WERE NOT TO HARM THE POPULATION BUT THAT THE NEXT TIME THEY ATTACKED THE CIVILIAN POPULATION WOULD BE FORCEABLY EVACUATED. A CAPTURED COPY OF THE PL OPERATIONS PLAN INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT TO THE CONTRARY



EACH UNIT WAS CHARGED WITH CAPTURING NONSPECIFIED GROUPS OF CIVILIANS.

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES INCLUDED SIX MEO AT KIO NYA, ONE TEACHER AT DONE MO AND ONE TEACHER AT PAK VET. ABOUT FORTY HOUSES BELONGING TO THE MUONG SAI AND XIENG KHOUANG REFUGEE GROUPS WERE BURNED AT KIO NYA.

FOLLOWING THE RECAPTURE OF XIENG NGEUN, KIO NYA AND THE SURROUNDING AREA MOVEMENTS WERE MADE TO SECURE (OR TO SWEEP) THE ENEMY'S AVENUES OF APPROACH; NAMELY, THE AREA WEST OF THE PAK BAC-PAK SA AXIS AND THE HIGH GROUND IN THE VICINITY OF PHOU NONG KHOUAY (SG9080). ON ABOUT 11 FEBRUARY BG-124 MOVED INTO THE PAK BAC AREA AND WAS RELIEVED SEVERAL DAYS LATER BY BV-14. (BG-124 SUBSEQUENTLY MOVED TO KIOCACHAM). ON 17 JANUARY BGR-131 MOVED ONE COMPANY INTO POSITION IN THE SG9685 AREA, AN INFILTRATION ROUTE FOR ENEMY MOVING SOUTH FROM THE PHOU VAYSOM AREA ACROSS THE MEKONG RIVER TO THE PHA LING-LONG LUAT AREA. THE ENEMY UNITS ACTIVE IN THIS AREA (PROBABLY NOT EXCEEDING 40 MEN) GENERALLY OPERATES IN THE LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY.

NEVERTHELESS, THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SWEEPING OPERATIONS APPEARED TO HAVE LITTLE MORE THAN TEMPORARY SUCCESS AS FRESH ENEMY BUILDUPS WERE REPORTED--ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA EAST OF XIENG NGEUN AND KIO NYA--DURING THE LATTER PART OF THE MONTH. THAT THIS WAS THE CASE IS BOURNE OUT BY THE FACT THAT REFUGEES FROM ENEMY HELD PAK BAC-PAK SA AREA SOUGHT REFUGE IN XIENG NGEUN IN THE EXPECTATION OF INCREASED FIGHTING IN THE VICINITY OF THEIR VILLAGES. (SEE XIENG NGEUN REFUGEE BREAKDOWN ABOVE). ON 28 JANUARY 12 FAMILIES 74 PEOPLE FROM PAK BAC AND 2 FAMILIES 14 PEOPLE FROM PHOU KHOUA SOUGHT REFUGE IN XIENG NGEUN. ON 3 FEBRUARY 15 FAMILIES 88 PEOPLE MOVED FROM PAK BAC TO XIENG NGEUN. BETWEEN 5 FEBRUARY AND 7 FEBRUARY REFUGEES FROM PAK XA (4/4), SA PHEUNE (7/14) AND PHOU KHOUA (6/32) MOVED TO XIENG NGEUN.

FURTHERMORE, THE FACT THAT FURTHER TROUBLE MAY LIE AHEAD WAS INDICATED BY THE MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES FROM VILLAGES #1&2 IN THE LONG NAM KHAN--KIO TEUY (9/29), HOUET KOK (16/67) AND HOUET KANE (10/48)--TO LUANG PRABANG. TO DATE, ELEMENTS OF THIS GROUP HAVE STILL NOT RETURNED HOME.

THE SITUATION APPEARED TO TAKE A TURN FOR THE WORSE ON 31 JANUARY WHEN THE ENEMY LAUNCHED STRONG ATTACKS IN THE PAK XEUANG-PHA THEUNG AREA RESULTING IN, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE LOSS OF THE 17/B POSITION AT TG1696. AS A MEANS OF FORESTALLING A NEW ENEMY OFFENSIVE TWO BV-16 COMPANIES WERE MOVED BACK ONTO PHOU PHA THEUNG ON 8 FEBRUARY AND ESTABLISHED THEMSELVES AT TG1493. ONE BV-14 COMPANY MOVED OUT OF THE TG1493 POSITION WITH THE MISSION OF SWEEPING THE TG2291 AREA. CV-123 (BV-12) BEGAN MOVING EAST IN THE AREA BETWEEN PAK BAC AND PAK SA WITH ITS OBJECTIVE BEING THE TG1782 AREA. ZONE 17/B TROOPS MOVED BACK INTO POSITION AT TG1696.

Plus  
5/23 fm  
Pak Bk 24/1  
Plus  
3/31 fm Phou  
Khoua 13/1



PAK OU AREA

ON 24 JANUARY AN ORDER WAS ISSUED BY THE KHOUENG OFFICE (THROUGH GENERAL SAYAVONG) FOR PAK XEUANG AND PAK OU AREA REFUGEES FROM THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES TO RETURN HOME:

PAK XEUANG

PHONE NGAM  
PHONE SAVANG  
PAK PA  
BAN THIN  
BAN SIEO  
BAN LUANG

PAK OU

PAK OU  
KHOC NGEUAK  
KHONE HOUNG  
KANG HAI  
HOUEI KO  
KHONE KIENE  
THINE HONG

HOWEVER, DUE TO AN UPSURGE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE AREA-- PARTICULARLY DURING THE NIGHT OF 18-19 JANUARY (CONCURRENTLY WITH A ROCKET ATTACK (25-30 ROCKETS) AGAINST THE LUANG PRABANG AIRPORT AT 2210 HOURS) AND 31 JAN-1 FEB--THE REFUGEES HAVE TO DATE BEEN UNABLE TO RETURN HOME. IN FACT, DURING THE LATTER ATTACK ENEMY MORTAR ROUNDS LANDED IN THE VICINITY OF PAK XEUANG, HOUEI SENE AND BAN DANE PROMPTING REFUGEES FROM THE FIRST TWO VILLAGES TO SEEK TEMPORARY REFUGE IN LUANG PRABANG (THA XIENG THONG) AND BAN DANE, RESPECTIVELY. THE MIXED GENERAL STAFF ORDERED THE PAK XEUANG REFUGEES TO RETURN HOME, BUT THE HOUEI SENE VILLAGERS CONTINUE TO SPEND NIGHTS IN BAN DANE.

BG-110 MOVED FROM DIOCACHAM TO THE PAK XEUANG FRONT ON 1 FEBRUARY AND HAS RECENTLY BEEN ENGAGED IN THE UPPER NAM XEUANG AREA. BG-122 moved to pak xeuang from kiocacham on 12 FEBRUARY. SCATTERED CLASHES WITH THE ENEMY (MOSTLY NVA) HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THIS SECTOR.

KIOCACHAM AREA

ON 31 DECEMBER SOME 288 LAO THEUNG REFUGEES MOVED FROM THE PHA KENG AREA TO DIOCACHAM AFTER THE FALL OF PHOU KHOUN DURING THE NIGHT OF 30/31 DECEMBER:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
PHA KENG	CHOMKHAM	XIENG NGEUN	8	50	NEW REFS
TAO PHOU	"	"	11	68	"
XIENG THONG	"	"	4	33	2
THAM LOUP	"	"	11	60	"
NAM LONG	"	"	6	34	2
THONGSATA	"	"	3	24	"
TANG OUEI NOI	"	"	3	19	"
			<hr/> 46	<hr/> 288	



MOST OF THE REFUGEES ARE DEPENDENTS OF PHA KENG ADO.

THERE WERE AN ADDITIONAL 11 FAMILIES 69 PEOPLE (MEO) FROM PHA LANG MOU (LS170). MANY OF THE LAO THEUNG REFUGEES SUBSEQUENTLY MOVED TO XIENG NGEUN WHERE THEY ARE PRESENTLY LOCATED.

IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE LOSS OF PHOU KHOUN (LS260) BG-122 AND BG-123 WERE SENT TO KIOCACHAM ON 31 DECEMBER, AND ON 1 JANUARY BG-122 WAS INFILTRATED INTO AN AREA A SHORT DISTANCE EAST OF PHOU KHOUN. HEAVY ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THE AREA PREVENTED INFILTRATION OF BG-123 and several DAYS LATER BG-122 DISPERSED AND PULLED BACK TO KIOCACHAM.

ON 8 JANUARY THE PHAKENG AND PHA LANG MOU POSITIONS WERE LOST. THE INCREASE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE AREA, COMPOUNDED BY THE PROSPECT OF ATTACKS AGAINST KIOCACHAM, PROMPTED THE KIOCACHAM REFUGEES TO MOVE TO PHOU DIN DENG (SG9365). THEY WERE ORDERED TO RETURN HOME TO KIOCACHAM ON 17 JANUARY, HOWEVER, AND ALL RETURNED TO KIOCACHAM WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PHA DONG (TASS PAKSA) 10/76 - THE MISSION OF RECAPTURING PHOU PHASANINE (TG2070) OCCUPIED BY THE 48th DEUANIST BATTALLION WAS ASSIGNED TO THE SOME 40 LOCAL MEO ADO; HENCE THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE REFUGEES (MANY OF WHOM ARE NATIVES OF PHASANINE) TO RETURN (THE 48th HAS SINCE WITHDRAWN TO THE MUONG SOUEI AREA).

ALTHOUGH MR-I UNITS SUCCEEDED IN RECAPTURING TERRITORY ALONG RLG #13 BETWEEN KIOCACHAM AND PHOU KHOUN, AND ALTHOUGH THE BULK OF THE ENEMY UNITY HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM THE AREA, CLASHES BETWEEN THE ENEMY AND FRIENDLY UNITS ARE FREQUENTLY REPOEED. MR-I UNITS REMAINING IN THE KIOCACHAM AREA INCLUDE BG-121 AND BG-124.

SAYABOURY

A) SEVERAL GROUPS OF REFUGEES, OLD AND NEW, FROM THE MUONG MET AREA HAVE REQUESTED FOOD ASSISTANCE. THE REFUGEES ARE PRESENTLY SETTLED IN SEVERAL VILLAGES ALONG THE MEKONG RIVER SOUTH OF THADUEA:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>
NONG PHA NOI	QA9494	69	347	NAM FEUANG
KHOC AKHA	QA9588	53	304	NA PHO (TASS NA PHO)
				NA PAN "
				NA PAO (XXXXXXXXXX)
				PHONE SAAT (TASS MG 1
				PHONE NGAM "
PAK HOUNG	QB9722	5	27	MUONG MET
KOK PAK	QB9405	5	22	NAM FEUANG
		<hr/> 132	<hr/> 700	



OF THE NONG PHA NOI REFUGEES, 33 FAMILIES 165 PEOPLE CAME FROM NAM FEUANG IN THE FALL (?) OF 1971 WHEN THEY WERE ORDERED FROM THE AREA BY FAR. THE BALANCE, 36 FAMILIES 182 PEOPLE, ARE MX "NEW" REFUGEES WHO LEFT MUONG MET (WHERE THEY MOVED FROM NAM FEUANG) ON ABOUT 14 JANUARY 1973 AFTER THE FAR POSITION AT MUONG MET WAS ATTACKED BY THE ENEMY.

OF THE KHOC AKHA REFUGEES, 24 FAMILIES 136 PEOPLE MOVED TO KHOC AKHA IN MARCH 1972 FROM BAN NA PHO, NA PHAN AND NA TAO (ALL IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO MUONG MET). THE BALANCE, 29 FAMILIES 168 PEOPLE ARRIVED AT KHOC AKHA ON ABOUT 12 JANUARY 1973 FROM PHONE SAAT AND PHONE NGAM.

THE PAK HOUNG REFUGEES ARE NEW ARRIVALS, WHILE THE KOK PAK GROUP ARE OLD REFUGEES.

THE "MEW" NAM FEUANG REFUGEES ARE PART OF A GROUP OF 76 FAMILIES 418 PEOPLE (NAM FEUANG) WHO PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED RICE AT MUONG MET BUT WHO WERE TERMINATED FROM THE SUPPORT ROLLS FOLLOWING HARVEST LAST YEAR. (ALSO BEING SUPPORTED IN MUONG MET WERE 22/127 BAN-PAMARK REFUGEES (LT), 12/69 BAN NHOT NAM PLAY REFUGEES (LT), AND 19/114 HOUEI KHILECK REFUGEES (LT).)

THE NEW REFUGEES WILL RECEIVE FULL SUPPORT (RICE AND PL-480) AND THE OLD REFUGEES WILL RECEIVE PARTIAL SUPPORT.

ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED REPORTS, THE ENEMY (AS OF 6 FEB) HAD SECURED MOST OF OUTLAYING AREA AROUND MUONG MET AND HAD SQUAD SIZED UNITS POSITIONED IN PAK NGAN (RAO070) AND BAN KOK TAVEN (RAO083). THE CHAO MUONG OF MUONG MET DEPARTED THE AREA IN MID-JANUARY FOLLOWING THE FIGHTING AND WENT TO VIENTIANE VIA VANG VIENG. THE REFUGEES IN THE KHOC AKHA/NONG PHA NOI AREA REPORTED THE PRESENCE OF MUONG MET REFUGEES AT PAKLAY AND SANAKHAM.

B) EIGHT FAMILIES 51 PEOPLE FROM LONG VAI KANG (PHOU PHA THEUNG, L.P.) MOVED TO SAYABOURY IN DECEMBER 1972 AND REQUESTED FOOD WUPPORT FROM MSW/SYBY. AS THESE REFUGEES WERE RECEIVING FOOD SUPPORT AT PHOU SOUANG AT THE TIME OF THEIR DEPARTURE TO SAYABOURY, AND AS THEY LEFT PHOU SOUANG (MIDWAY BETWEEN XIENG LOM AND KOK NGIEU) WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE LUANG PRABANG KHOUENG AND MSW OFFICES, THEIR CASE WAS CONSIDERED CAREFULLY, ESPECIALLY SO IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THEY WERE PART OF A GROUP OF 164 MEO REFUGEES WHO LEFT PHOU SOUANG AND HOUEI XIENG IN DECEMBER WITHOUT PERMISSION THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES. IT WAS DECIDED THAT THIS GROUP WOULD RECIEVEX FULL FOOD SUPPORT (RICE AND PL-480),, BUT THAT IN THE FUTURE ANY GROUP OF REFUGEESLEAVING A GIVEN AREA WHILE RECEIVING FOOD SUPPORT IN THAT AREA WOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONTINUED FOOD SUPPORT UNLESS THEY PRESENTED PROPER DOCUMENTATION FROM LOCAL RLQ OFFICIALS.



OTHER REFUGEES WHO LEFT PHOU SOUANG/HOUET XIENG INCLUDE:

HOUET XIENG

5/34 BOUAK KHOUAY TO PAKLAY (PHOU PHA KHOUAY)  
 5/33 NAM OK HOU TO PAKLAY                   "  
 4/24 PHA NYA KHA TO PAKLAY                   "  
 2/16 LONG VAI DIN PHA TO PAKLAY           "

C) TWENTY-SIX FAMILIES 151 PEOPLE WHO MOVED FROM PHOUANG NHEUANG (VIC SG9585), LP, TO PHONE NGAM (NAM TAN) LAST FALL WILL RECEIVE ADDITIONAL FOOD SUPPORT THROUGH HARVEST AFTER HAVING BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED FROM THE RICE ROLLS IN DECEMBER.

POSTWAR PLANNING (REFUGEES)

AT THE REQUEST OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS, MSW/LP HAS BEGUN A COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF ALL REFUGEES GENERATED IN LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE SINCE 1960. LOCAL CHAO MUONGS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO UPDATE LISTS OF REFUGEES FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE MUONGS, AND MSW/ORA STAFF MEMBERS WILL SOON BEGIN SEARCHING FOR AND INTERVIEWING EACH REFUGEE FAMILY. THIS UNDERTAKING IS EXPECTED TO TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS. THE COLLECTED DATA WILL BE UTILIZED IN SEVERAL WAYS:

- 1) THE RED CROSS, WHICH WILL SERVE AS LIAISON BETWEEN FAMILIES LIVING IN BOTH ZONES WHO WERE SEPARATED BY THE WAR, WILL UTILIZE THE INFORMATION IN ASSISTING REFUGEES INTERESTED IN SEARCHING FOR AND MAKING CONTACT WITH RELATIVES AND FRIENDS LIVING IN EITHER ZONE.
- 2) TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR POSSIBLE REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES TO THEIR ORIGINAL HOMES FOLLOWING A LAOS PEACE SETTLEMENT.

THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS WILL APPARENTLY HAVE A PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE AND PRESUMABLY A RED CROSS FIELD STAFF WILL BE WORKING IN BOTH ZONES.

PRE-CEASEFIRE/SETTLEMENT EVENTS

ON 9 FEBRUARY LOCAL CIVILIAN AND MILITARY OFFICIALS MET TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF A PRE-CEASEFIRE LAND GRAB BY THE ENEMY, AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT ALL AVAILABLE RESOURCES SHOULD BE MOBILIZED TO GUARD AGAINST SUCH AN EVENTUALITY. ALL LOCAL FUNCTIONNAIRES WERE ORDERED TO STAND 24-HOUR GUARD ~~XX~~ DUTY AT DESIGNATED LOCATION WITHIN LUANG PRABANG UNTIL THE SIGNING OF A CEASEFIRE, AND LOCAL SELECTED POLICE UNITS (TOTTALLING 120 MEN) WERE DISPATCHED TO BEEF UP MILITARY FORCES STATIONED AT MUONG NANE, MUONG KHAY AND XIENG MENE. IT HAD BEEN REPORTED THAT DURING THE LATTER PART OF JANUARY AND EARLY FEBRUARY

LOCAL PL WERE ACTIVE IN THE MUONG NANE AREA (INCLUDING MUONG NANE, ITSELF) AND THAT THEY HAD REACHED AND "AGREEMENT" WITH LOCAL MILITARY AND CIVILIANS TO THE EFFECT THAT A "TRUCE" WOULD BE OBSERVED IN MUONG NANE, i.e., THE PL WOULD NOT INSTIGATE ANY MILITARY ACTIVITY AGAINST FAR UNITS AND CIVILIANS LOCATED IN THE MUONG NANE AREA. THE PL ALSO REPORTEDLY ENCOURAGED THE LOCAL POPULATION TO SUPPORT THE RLG CHAO MUONG IN MUONG NANE. A SIMILAR TYPE OF AGREEMENT WAS ALSO SUPPOSEDLY REACHED AT NA MUONG (SG8565). TO GUARD AGAINST A TACIT TAKEOVER OF MUONG NANE BY THE ENEMY FOLLOWING A CEASEFIRE COL. SICHAN (THE COMMANDER OF THE LOCAL FAR UNIT, BV-12) WAS SENT TO MUONG NANE. MAJOR XIENG MANH NOI, WHO WAS SENT TO THONG KHANG, DISPATCHED ONE COMPANY OF TROOPS TO THE BAN SENESY ARE A (SG8450), WHICH THE ENEMY HAS RECENTLY VISITED FREQUENTLY.

COL. SICHAN HAS SINCE BEEN WITHDRQWN FROM MUONG NANE AND IS REPORTEDLY CURRENTLY ASSISTING LOCAL KHOUENG OFFICIALS IN TOURING THE COUNTRYSIDE AND INFORMING THE LOCAL POPULATION OF THE RAMIFICATIONS OF A CEASEFIRE AND PEACE SETTLEMENT. AS AN AID TO THIS EFFORT, FAR PSYOPS WILL SOON DISTRIBUTE 90 RADIOS TO LOCAL REFUGEE LEADERS.

PCB 2/15/73

CLEARANCE: \_\_\_\_\_

LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

cc.

AC/LP  
ARMA/LP  
ORA/LP



TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA

28 FEBRUARY 1973

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: LUANG PRABANG REFUGEE STATISTICS

THE ATTACHED BREAKDOWN LISTS ALL REFUGEES PRESENTLY RECEIVING FULL FOOD SUPPORT BY ORIGINAL VILLAGE, TASSENG, MUONG, ETHNIC GROUP AND PRESENT LOCATION.

INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL OF 4269 FAMILIES 23,092 PEOPLE FROM 238 VILLAGES ARE FIVE ETHNIC GROUPS:

<u>ETHNIC GROUP</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
LAO THEUNG	1769	9155
LAO	1296	7049
MEO	818	4950
LEU	290	1598
THAI DAM	28	155
MISC.	68	185

FCB  
28/2/73

cc.

AC/LP  
ORA/LP

LUANG PRABANG REFUGEES  
FEBRUARY 1973

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
PHIK NYAI	PHANOM	LUANG PRABANG	LEU	PHIK NYAI	TH1003	55	277
PAK LUM	VARIOUS	VARIOUS	VARIOUS	PAK LUM	RB1493	68	185
KIO TEUY	MUONG XUNE	XUNE	LAO THEUNG	#1 LNK		45	162
INSATEP	BAN LONG	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	"		16	81
LUANG NAM MING NOI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		1	8
PAK LENG	DANE KHOUA	"	LAO THEUNG	"		4	32
KENG KHAY	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		1	7
HOUEI LUANG NEUA	MUONG XUNE	XUNE	LAO THEUNG	#2 LNK		56	246
HOUEI KOK	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		18	76
HOUEI KANE	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		20	88
HOUEI PHANE	DANE KHOUA	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	#3 LNK		25	118
PHOU NGOUA	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		24	120
HOUEI HIN KHAM	"	"	LAO THEUNG	#4 LNK		16	91
MUONG YOU	MUONG YOU	MUONG YOU	LAO	"		16	96
HAT KHAM	MUONG NGOI	MUONG NGOI	LAO	"		9	63
THONGSATA	CHOMKHAM	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	"		4	24
DANE KHOUA	DANE KHOUA	"	LAO	#5 LNK		24	159
PAK MENE	"	"	LAO	"		14	76
SOP CHOUAN	"	"	LAO	"		4	20
NAM BAK	NAM BAK	NAM BAK	LAO	"		4	37



<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
PHOU SOUNG	DANE KHOUA	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	#6 LNK		29	188
NAM THI NEUA	PHOU PEN	VIENG FA (XK)	LAO THEUNG	"		12	76
PAK LENG	DANE KHOUA	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	"		23	106
KENG KHAY	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		1	5
HOUEI KOK	"	"	LAO THEUNG	#7 LNK		11	69
HOUEI NA	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		10	45
HIN LECK	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		17	121
VANG MENE TAI	BAN LONG	"	LAO THEUNG	"		15	71
LUANG NAM MING YAI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	#8 LNK		30	150
LUANG NAM MING NOI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		16	103
HOUEI SAPHO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		14	84
NAM PLONG	CHOMKHAM	"	LAO THEUNG	#9 LNK		4	15
SAY THONG TAI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		8	47
LANONG YAI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		18	95
LANONG NOI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		14	72
THAM LOUP	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		3	16
THONGSATA	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		1	8
NAM HAP	BAN LONG	"	LAO THEUNG	#10 LNK		25	143
PHA HOUNG	PHOU CHIA	"	MEO	"		21	133
PHA HOUNG	DANE KHOUA	"	MEO	#11 LNK		65	364
PHOU KOUP	CHOMKHAM	"	LAO THEUNG	#12 LNK		21	131
CHANG OUAN NOI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		17	80
HOUEI MO	PHOU PEN	MUONG PEK (XK)	LAO THEUNG	"		1	2

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
SOUAN KATFE	PHOU PEN	PEK (XK)	LAO THEUNG	#12 LNK		18	95
NAM PLONG	CHOMKHAM	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	"		8	38
HOUEI TAO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		7	30
KIO MUONG	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		22	100
HOUEI TAO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		22	132
LONG SA	NA LUANG	LUANG PRBANG	MEO	XIENG NGEUN	LS-354	24	153
THINE HONG	PAK OU	PAK OU	LAO	MUONG KHAM ✓ KHOC PAP	TH0506 TH0103	60	316
HOUEI MARK	"	"	LAO THEUNG	BAN"SOUAN	TH0505	19	82
HOUEI PENE	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		13	62
PHA KHOUANG	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		26	129
NONG KHAM	"	"	LAO	" ✓		9	60
HAT KHAM	"	"	LAO	" ✓		40	236
XANG HAI	PAK XEUANG	"	LAO	WAT THAT ✓	TH0001	58	292
PHA THEUNG	PAK OU	"	LAO	MUONG KHAM ✓ KHOC PAP		29	166
HAT KHO	"	"	LEU	" ✓		15	95
KHONE KHAM	"	"	LEU	" ✓		11	68
HOUEI KHO HOUEI CHARK	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		9	41



<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
MOK HO	PAK OU	PAK OU	LAO THEUNG	MUONG KHAM ✓ KHOC PAP		34	150
HOUEI KHO	"	"	LAO	MUONG KHAM ✓ BAN SOUAN ✓		26	107
VANG LE	"	"	LEU	"		26	143
HOUEI HO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		14	67
BAN FAI	"	"	LEU	MUONG KHAM ✓		28	187
PAK CHEK	"	"	LEU	" ✓		12	85
HOUEI CHIM	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		14	76
KHOC NGEUAK	"	"	LAO	MUONG KHAM ✓		17	87
KHONE HOUNG	PAKXENG	PAKXENG	LAO	PHONESAAT ✓	L.P.	18	111
HAT MAT	PAK OU	PAK OU	LAO	MUONG KHAM ✓		35	160
PAK OU	"	"	LAO	THA WAT NONG ✓ MUONG KHAM	L.P.	45	275
LASAPONG	LATHAN	"	LAO THEUNG	KHOC PAP ✓		9	58
HOUEI KHA NYAI	"	"	LEU	" ✓		9	37
HOUEI PAO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		10	41
MOK LEK	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		10	53
KEO TAY	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		9	37
BAN MUONG	PAK OU	"	LAO	PHONESAAT ✓		25	156

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
HOUEI YO LAO	PAK OU	PAK OU	LAO	MUONG KHAM ✓ KHOC PAP ✓		31	178
NA XANG	"	"	THAI DAM	" ✓		14	75
HOUEI SEUNG	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		13	75
HOUEI ANG	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		10	46
HOUEI YO NAI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		8	40
PHA THAO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		8	47
HOUEI PONG	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		17	74
KHOC KHAM	"	"	LAO	MUONG KHAM ✓		10	49
BAN KHOC	"	"	LAO	BAN SOUAN ✓		24	135
KOK VANE TAI	KOK VANE	SOPVI	LAO	HOUA NA KANG	THO200	23	144
KOK VANE NEUA	"	"	LAO	"		18	105
NA TANE	"	"	LAO	"		47	229
NA KHI YEN	"	"	LAO	"		22	108
THA PO	THA PO	"	LAO	"		1	5
BO HE	KOK VANE	"	LAO ✓	NONG SAI	THO303	35	169
LONG LANH	"	"	LAO THEUNG	" ✓		24	84
HOUEI PO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	HOUA DONE		23	103

17

328 1666



<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
HOUEI KATOM	KOKVANE	SOPVI	LAO THEUNG	HOUA DONE		12	41
PAK XEUANG ✓	PAK XEUANG	PAK OU	LAO	"		58	339
PAK PA ✓	"	"	LAO	KHOC SAMOY	TH0707	20	101
KHOC KHI NGEUA ✓	MUONG XUNE	XUNE	LAO	KHOC KHI NGEUA	TH1110	38	194
BAN THIN ✓	PAK XEUANG	PAK OU	LAO	MUONG KHAM		37	181
BAN SIO ✓	"	"	LAO	"		14	79
DONE KHOUN ✓	MUONG XUNE	XUNE	LAO	LUANG PRABANG		22	134
BAN LUANG ✓	PAK XEUANG	PAK OU	LAO	SANG KHONG	TH0303	27	129
PHONE SAVANG ✓	"	"	LAO	KOK PAP		40	206
PHONE NGAM ✓	"	"	LAO	"		22	109
BAN PHIA ✓	PAKXENG	PAKXENG	LAO	"		17	81
BAN LUM ✓	"	"	LAO	"		13	68
KHI LUANG ✓	PAK XEUANG	PAK OU	LAO	LUANG PRABANG		27	148
BAN LE ✓	"	"	LAO	"		23	188
DONE CHO	PHA KOM	LUANG PRABANG	LAO	DONE CHO	TH0806	45	244
PHA O	"	"	LAO	PHA O	TH1007	41	213
HAT KHO	PAK OU	PAK OU	LEU	"		36	209

492 2664

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
HOUET SENE	PHA KOM	LUANG PRABANG	LAO	HOUET SENE	TH1108	58	303
PHOU XANG	DANE KHOUA	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	KIO NYA	TG0783	18	98
KIOTALEUN	BAN LONG	"	LAO THEUNG	"		32	187
PAK XANG	DANE KHOUA	"	LAO THEUNG	"		19	113
NAM SA O	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		11	44
THONGSATA	CHOMKHAM	"	LAO THEUNG	"		21	105
HOUET NA	DANE KHOUA	"	LAO THEUNG	"		9	50
PHA AY NOI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		15	81
NAM SALLY	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		13	77
LONGSATA	CHOMKHAM	"	LAO THEUNG	"		11	71
PHA LANG MOU YAI	DANE KHOUA	"	MEO	"		41	220
PHA AY NYAI	"	"	MEO	"		21	119
PHOU TA SAE	"	"	MEO	"		28	198
PHOUNG NHEUANG	NA LUANG	LUANG PRABANG	MEO	"		1	9
PHA KHAO	PAK VET	XIENG NGEUN	MEO	"		13	70
PHOU LAK TAY	PHOU SE	VIENG FA (XK)	MEO	"		9	46
PHOU LIN	MUONG YOU	MUONG YOU	MEO	"		18	106

17

338 1897



<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
KIO KHANG	PHOU SE	VIENG FA	MEO	KIO NYA		2	20
HOUEI TAT	"	"	MEO	"		13	81
POM TAO	"	"	MEO	"		9	59
PHOU LAK NEUA	"	"	MEO	"		3	19
NAM MIA	LONG YA	MUONG LA	MEO	"		4	30
HOUEI OUNE	"	"	MEO	"		3	13
HOUEI TOUNE	NA LUANG	MUONG PRABANG	MEO	"		3	22
LONG VAI NOI	PAK VET	XIENG NGEUN	MEO	"		1	6
HOUEI PHAT	BAN LONG	"	MEO	"		2	14
PHA LANG MOU NOI	DANE KHOUA	"	MEO	"		16	95
PHOU KASAK	PAK VET	"	MEO	PHOU KASAK	TG0377	39	230
PHA CHAO	MUONG YOU	MUONG YOU	MEO	KIO NYA		4	22
NAM OK HOU	PAK VET	XIENG NGEUN	MEO	PHOU KASAK		40	219
NAM SOUEI	DANE KHOUA	"	MEO	KIO NYA		1	7
THONGSATA	"	"	MEO	"		5	45
PHA WAI	PHOU CHIA	"	MEO	"		7	32
KIOTALEUN NEUA	BAN LONG	"	MEO	"		32	262

184

1176

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
NAM CHALEUA	BAN LONG	XIENG NGEUN	MEO	KIO NYA		6	32
PHA LUANG	DANE KHOUA	"	MEO	"		3	12
PHA DONG	PAKSA	"	MEO	PHOU DIN DENG	SG9365	10	76
KIOTALEUN	BAN LONG	"	MEO	"		12	84
HOUEI PHAT	"	"	MEO	"		10	79
PHA LANG MOU NOI	DANE KHOUA	"	MEO	"		2	13
LONG VAI KANG	PAK VET	"	MEO	PHOU XOUANG	TG0898	9	49
PHA VAI	"	"	MEO	"		7	32
MOK KHA	"	"	MEO	"		7	42
LONG VAI YAI KAO	"	"	MEO	"		1	8
LONG VAI MAI	"	"	MEO	HOUEI XIENG	TG0895	8	36
PHA LUANG	"	"	MEO	"		3	9
NAM OK HOU	"	"	MEO	"		1	15
PHA THEUNG HOUEI YEN	"	"	MEO	"		5	18
LONG VAI NOI KAO	"	"	MEO	"		9	46
PHA THEUNG MAI	"	"	MEO	"		15	85
PHA THEUNG KAO	"	"	MEO	"		5	33
BOUAK KHOUAY	"	"	MEO	"		5	26



<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
HOU EI NGOU	PAK VET	XIENG NGEUN	MEO	HOU EI XIENG		17	98
PHA THEUNG KANG	"	"	MEO	"		12	65
LONG VAI DIN PHA	"	"	MEO	"		20	119
LONG LANH KANG	"	"	MEO	"		2	11
PA NYA KHA	"	"	MEO	"		6	22
PHA THONG LOM	NA KA	KASSY	LAO THEUNG	THONG KHANG	LS-355	53	249
OUT NAM KAT	PHOU CHIA	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	"		11	67
PAK HIN PENE	XIENG NGEUN	"	LAO THEUNG	"		13	69
HOU EI PA IAN	PHOU CHIA	"	LAO THEUNG	"		18	88
SAN KANG YAI	BAN LONG	"	LAO THEUNG	"		25	136
NAM YAO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		7	49
CHANG OUAN NOI	CHOMKHAM	"	LAO THEUNG	"		5	41 <i>net</i>
PHOU KOUP	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		10	62
PHA LAM	MUONG KASSY	KASSY	LAO THEUNG	"		14	55
NAM KENE	NAM SA	KASSY	LAO THEUNG	"		22	130
SAMANG	PHOU PEN	PEK (XK)	LAO THEUNG	"		5	30

240 1291

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>BOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
NA HOY	PHOU PEN	PEK (XK)	LAO THEUNG	THONG KHANG		6	44
NAM LAO TAY	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		9	50
SALEUTH	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		18	99
HOUEI MO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		5	20
PHOU DOK	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		15	75
NAM LAO NOI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		8	51
HOUEI PIK	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		12	82
PHA LANG MOU NOI	DANE KHOUA	XIENG NGEUN	MEO	KIOCACHAM	LS-04	14	84
PHA AY NYAI	"	"	MEO	"		20	113
PHA LANG MOU YAI	"	"	MEO	"		15	90
THONGSATA	"	"	MEO	"		13	85
THAM LOUP	CHOMKHAM	"	LAO THEUNG	"		8	38
NAM PLONG	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		7	37
PHASANINE NAM SA	PAKSA	"	MEO	"		12	92
PHA LANG MOU	DANE KHOUA	"	MEO	"		9	68
PHASANINE NYAI	PAKSA	"	MEO	"		22	105
PHASANINE NOI	"	"	MEO	"		20	130

17 213 1263



<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
HOUEI PHAT	BAN LONG	XIENG NGEUN	MEO	KIOCACHAM		7	55
KIOTALEUN	"	"	MEO	"		19	115
PHA DONG	PAKSA	"	MEO	"		12	99
THA OUEI		SOPVI	LAO THEUNG	HOUA NA KANG		7	29
HOUEI LEUK		"	LAO THEUNG	"		5	22
PAK CHEK	PAK OU	PAK OU	LEU	MUONG KHAM ✓		39	208
LATHAHAE	"	"	LEU	"		59	289
BAN DANE	PAK XEUANG	"	LAO	BAN DANE	TH1109	28	145
HOUEI NYANG	BAN FA	NAM BAK	THAI DAM	MUONG KHAM		14	80
PHA KHAO	SOPVI	SOPVI	LAO THEUNG	XIENG LOM	TG1199	11	52
HOUEI NOK	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		14	64
MUONG KHAY	PAK VET	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	"		46	175
HOUEI ANG	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		8	46
HOUEI NHEUAN	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		24	101
LONG VAI PAK TANG	"	"	MEO	"		21	123
PA NYA KHA LUANG	"	"	MEO	"		12	79
LONG VAI KAO	"	"	MEO	"		22	108

17

348

1790

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
BOUAM OH	PAK VET	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	BAN SA	TG0791	60	352
BAN SA	"	"	LAO	BAN FAI	TG0792	21	103
PAK HOUET YEN	"	"	LAO THEUNG	SOUAN LUANG	TG0793	45	257
HOUET YAN KAO	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		17	64
HOUET PLONG	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		12	51
HOUET YEN DIN PHA	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		27	149
HOUET FAI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	LONG OH	TG0691	34	170
BAN SOUAN	"	"	LAO	"		34	218
HOUET SAE	"	"	LAO THEUNG	XIENG LOM		27	148
HOUET SATHAN	"	"	LAO THEUNG	DONE MO	TG0687	14	67
HAT KHANG	PAK BAK	"	LAO THEUNG	"		17	78
KHONG VAI	PAK VET	"	LAO	"		6	31
KIO MAK NAO	"	"	<del>MEU</del> LIT	XIENG NGEUN		44	288
PHOU KHOUA	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		8	61
SAY THONG NEUA	CHOMKHAM	"	LAO THEUNG	"		4	29
TANG OUEI NOI	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		3	19
THONGSATA	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		2	13

375 2098



<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>TASSENG</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>ETHNIC</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORDS</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
TAO POUN	CHOMKHAM	XIENG NGEUN	LAO THEUNG	XIENG NGEUN		22	122
PHA KENG	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		14	85
THAM LOUP	"	"	LAO THEUNG	"		5	34
PAK BAK	PAK BAK	"	LAO	"		31	185
SA PHEUN	PAK SA	"	LAO	"		7	14
PAK SA	"	"	LAO	"		4	4
HOUEI KHAE	LATHAN	PAK OU	LAO	KOK PAP		19	93

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TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: LUANG PRABANG REFUGEE STATISTICS

1 MARCH 1973

BASED ON THE MOST CURRENT AVAILABLE INFORMATION IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REFUGEES DISPLACED FROM AREAS WITHIN LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE SINCE 1960 APPROACHES 99,161 PEOPLE.

OF THE TWENTY MUONGS IN LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, THE ENTIRE POPULATION OF EACH MUONG CATEGORIZED ON THE ATTACHED CHART AS LIVING UNDER RLG CONTROL HAS AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER BEEN OF REFUGEE STATUS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF:

<u>MUONG</u>	<u>EST. REFUGEE TOTAL</u>
MUONG KHAY	1000
MUONG NANE	300
MUONG MET	1000
MUONG LUANG PRABANG	3000
MUONG XIENG NGEUN	18,000
	<hr/>
	23,000

PORTIONS OF THESE MUONGS ARE EITHER ENEMY HELD (MUONG XIENG NGEUN) OR LIE WITHIN THE P.L. SPHERE OF INFLUENCE (MUONG KHAY, MUONG NANE, MUONG MET).

OF THOSE MUONGS WHOSE ENTIRE RLG CONTROLLED POPULATION HAS BEEN DISPLACED ALL ARE TERRITORILY SITUATED IN THE P.L. ZONE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MUONG SOPVI, MUONG PAK OU AND MUONG PAK XENG. RLG CONTROLLED AREAS IN THESE MUONGS ARE GENERALLY UNINHABITED AND POSSESS ONLY A MILITARY PRESENCE.

MOST OF THE REFUGEES FROM THE MUONGS LISTED BELOW ARE CURRENTLY PHYSICALLY LOCATED IN PROVINCES ADJACENT TO LUANG PRABANG:

<u>MUONG</u>	<u>PRESENT LOCATION</u>
MUONG MOUEI	XIENG KHOUANG
MUONG HIEM	"
MUONG YOU	"
MUONG PAKTHA	HOUA KHONG

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT AT LEAST 10 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL APPROXIMATE REFUGEE POPULATION ARE CURRENTLY MILITARY (SGU AND FAR) DEPENDENTS.



PAGE TWO

(VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE PHONGSALY REFUGEES--NOT INCLUDED IN THIS TOTAL, BUT ESTIMATED AT ABOUT 6000 PEOPLE--ARE MILITARY DEPENDENTS). THE DEPENDENT REFUGEE SITUATION WILL BE OUTLINED IN A DIFFERENT REPORT.

AS THE COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF REFUGEES CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED BY MSW/LP IS COMPLETED MORE DETAILED INFORMATION SPECIFYING REFUGEE TOTALS BY TASSENG AND VILLAGE WILL BECOME AVAILABLE.

CLEARANCE:

*Louis Connick*  
LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

cc. AC/LP  
ARMA/LP  
ORA/LP

POPULATION STATISTICS--LUANG PRABANG

NOVEMBER 1972

<u>MUONG</u>	<u>VILLAGES</u>	<u>TASSENGS</u>	<u>RLG</u> <u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>VILLAGES</u>	<u>TASSENGS</u>	<u>PL</u> <u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
MUONG KHAY	42	3	1558	8780	16	1	194	977
MUONG XUNE	53	4	1414	8016	56	4	1595	9097
MUONG NGOI	56	2	1407	6249	54	5	2538	16,026
MUONG LA	142	2	1691	9884	76	2	2775	15,625
MUONG SOPVI	36	2	346	1552	48	3	986	4971
MUONG MOUEI	11	2	106	550	42	3	1107	5535
MUONG NANE	117	4	3184	17,264	--	--	--	--
MUONG BENG	7	1	70	363	121	3	3698	16,758
MUONG NAM BAK	46	3	554	2647	30	3	1351	10,543
MUONG HOUN	24	4	747	3402	134	4	3946	19,977
MUONG PAK OU	51	4	1724	8475	114	4	2247	13,464
MUONG SAI	67	5	1624	7279	117	5	3377	24,901
MUONG MET	33	3	895	4835	37	2	310	1801
MUONG HIEM	126	12	1441	9162	102	5	2359	15,343
MUONG PAK SENG	21	4	427	2246	241	4	4992	29,946
MUONG PAK BENG	39	3	990	5274	56	3	1086	5431
MUONG YOU	61	1	1331	6360	28	1	305	2131
MUONG LUANG PRA.	116	6	3175	17,170	--	--	--	--
MUONG PAKTHA	28	4	844	4402	166	4	2569	16,587
MUONG XIENG NG.	182	7	3683	21,720	65	6	1194	6382
	<u>1258</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>27,211</u>	<u>145,630</u>	<u>1503</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>36,629</u>	<u>215,495</u>

FIGURES COMPILED BY L.P. KHOUENG OFFICE



TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA

31 MARCH 1973

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: REFUGEE SITREP--15 FEBRUARY-31 MARCH

PAK OU-PAK XEUANG AREA

SINCE THE CEASEFIRE WENT INTO EFFECT ON 22 FEBRUARY THE SITUATION IN THE PAK OU-PAK XEUANG AREA HAS STABILIZED TO THE EXTENT THAT, IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE CHAO MUONG OF PAK OU DATED 14 MARCH, GENERAL SAYAVONG ORDERED (21 MARCH) ALL REFUGEES DISPLACED FROM THE REGION IN OCTOBER TO RETURN TO THE VILLAGES FROM WHICH THEY FLED:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES LOCATION</u>	<u>RETURNING POINT</u>
KHOC KHAM	10	49	MG KHAM/KHOC PAP	OPPOSITE KHOK KHAM
HOUEI YO LAO	31	178	"	HOUEI YO LAO
HOUEI YO NAI	8	40	"	HOUEI YO LAO MAI
BAN MUONG	25	157	PHONESAAT	BAN MUONG
HOUEI KO	26	107	MG KHAM/BAN SOUAN	HOUEI KO
VANG LE	28	155	"	"
MOK HO	33	146	MG KHAM/KHOK PAP	KHONE KEENE
PHA THEUNG	29	166	"	"
HAT KHO	15	95	"	"
KHONE KHAM	11	68	2	"
LATHAN	123	754	KHOK PAP	"
LATKHAMOUN	21	112	<del>MGMEIXXQ</del> K.PAP	HOUEI YO
KHOK PHOU	47	306	"	"
NGOI HAI	22	144	"	"
KENG KHENE	66	448	"	"
HAT KHAM	39	230	BAN SOUAN	THINE HONG
THINE HONG	60	316	MG KHAM/KHOK PAP	"
BAN DANE	28	145	BAN DANE	BAN DANE
HAT MAT	34	162	MUONG KHAM	HAT MAT
PAK OU	44	270	MG KHAM/THA WAT NONG	PAK OU
PAK CHEK	51	293	MUONG KHAM	KHOK NGEUAK
KHOK NGEUAK	17	87	"	"
HOUEI CHIM	14	76	"	"
NONG KHAM	9	60	BAN SOUAN	"
BAN FAI	28	187	MUONG KHAM	"
KHONE HOUNG	18	111	PHONESAAT	KHONE HOUNG
XANG HAI	57	290	WAT THAT	XANG HAI
KHI LUANG	30	166	LUANG PRABANG	KHI LUANG
BAN LE	24	191	"	BAN LE
BAN PHIA	17	81	KHOK PAP	BAN PHIA
BAN LUM	13	68	"	BAN LUM
PHONE SAVANG	40	207	"	PHONE SAVANG

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. LOCATION</u>
BAN LUANG	28	134	SANG KHONG	BAN LUANG
BAN THIN	37	181	MUONG KHAM	BAN THIN
BAN SIEO	14	79	"	BAN SIEO
PAK PA	20	101	KHOK SAMOY	PAK PA
PHONE NGAM	22	111	KHOK PAP	PHONE NGAM
PAK XEUANG	60	317	HOUA DONE	PAK XEUANG
KOK KHI NGEUA	38	201	KOK KHI NGEUA	KOK KHI NGEUA
DONE KHOUN	20	124	LUANG PRABANG	DONE KHOUN
BAN KHOK	24	135	BAN SOUAN	BAN LUANG
TOTAL:	1281	7248		

OTHER VILLAGES NOT INCLUDED IN GENERAL SAYAVONG'S LIST, BUT LIKEWISE AFFECTED BY THE ORDER, ARE:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>PRES. LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. LOCATION</u>
NA XANG	14	75	KHOK PAP	HOUEI YO
HOUEI SEUNG	13	75	"	"
HOUEI ANG	10	45	"	"
PHA THAO	8	47	"	"
HOUEI PONG	17	74	"	"
LASAPONG	9	58	"	PAK OU (?)
HOUEI KHA YAI	9	37	"	"
HOUEI PAO	10	41	"	"
MOK LEK	10	53	"	"
KEO TAI	9	37	"	"
HOUEI HO	14	67	BAN SOUAN	HOUEI KHO (?)
HOUEI KHAE	19	95	KHOK PAP	HOUEI YO (?)
HOUEI NYANG	14	80	MUONG KHAM	HOUEI NYANG
LATHAHAE	59	289	"	PAK OU (?)
H.KO/H.CHARK	9	41	KHOK PAP	KHONG KIENE
TOTAL:	224	1114		

ALL OF THE ABOVE ARE REFUGEES CURRENTLY RECEIVING FOOD SUPPORT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF LATHAN, LATHKAMOUN, KHOK PHOU, NGOI HAI AND KENG KHENE.

REFUGEES--MOSTLY THE MENFOLK--~~MAKEXRETUMEN~~ FROM EACH VILLAGE HAVE RETURNED TO THE DESIGNATED LOCATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREPARING UPLAND RICE FIELDS. THE ONLY EXCEPTIONS ARE KHOK PHOU (NOW AT MUONG KHAM), NGOI HAI (MUONG KHAM) AND KHENG KHENE (XIENG MENE), VILLAGES THAT HAVE PREPARED HIGHLAND RICE FIELDS IN THE XIENG MENE/MUONG KHAM AREA. IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT REFUGEES FROM THESE VILLAGES WILL RETURN TO HOUEI YO AS DIRECTED.



PAK XEUANG AREA VILLAGES LISTED BELOW HAVE RETURNED HOME IN THEIR ENTIRETY:

PAK XEUANG	BAN THIN
DONE KHOUN	BAN SIEO
KHOK KHI NGEUA	PAK PA
BAN DANE	PHONE NGAM

THAT ALL REFUGEES WHO RETURN TO THE ASSIGNED VILLAGES WOULD BE ENTITLED TO RICE SUPPORT THROUGH HARVEST WAS REAFFIRMED AT A KHOUENG MEETING ON 2 MARCH.

REFUGEES FROM DONE CHO, PHA O, HOUET SENE AND BAN DANE WHO RETURNED TO THEIR VILLAGES IN DECEMBER WILL NO LONGER BE ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD SUPPORT BEGINNING IN APRIL AS PER A DECISION REACHED AT A REFUGEE KHOUENG COMMITTEE MEETING ON 15 DECEMBER. ALTHOUGH THESE VILLAGES WERE NOT THREATENED BY THE ENEMY DURING THE FALL OFFENSIVE, THE POPULATION WAS REQUESTED BY THE MILITARY TO MOVE TEMPORARILY DUE TO THE PROXIMITY OF ARTILLERY POSITIONS TO THE VILLAGES. INHABITANTS OF THESE VILLAGES ARE ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT AND THEREFORE NOT DEPENDENT UPON EMERGENCY FOOD RATIONS.

AS NOTED ABOVE, THE MILITARY SITUATION HAS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A FEW MINOR CLASHES, REMAINED STABLE WITH BOTH SIDES POSITIONED IN FRONTAL AREAS WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE ZONES OF CONTROL. GENERALLY, THE DEMARKATION LINE HAS BEEN THE NAM OU RIVER, AND THE ~~XXX~~ MEKONG RIVER UPSTREAM FROM PAK OU. THE P.L. HAVE REPORTEDLY RAISED A FLAG IN THE BAN KHOK (THO920) AREA. INSTANCES OF FRATERNIZATION BETWEEN P.L. AND FRIENDLY TROOPS, BOTH GROUPS CONSISTING MOSTLY OF LAO THEUNG, ~~AND~~ HAVE FREQUENTLY BEEN REPORTED IN THE BORDERLINE AREAS NEAR PAK OU (INCLUDING PAK OU), AND THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS CONTACTS BETWEEN P.L. TROOPS AND RETURNING REFUGEES ALTHOUGH THE P.L. HAVE APPARENTLY DONE LITTLE TO HARRASS CIVILIANS. LOCAL MILITARY/CIVILIAN OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE P.L. WILL EXPLOIT THESE CONTACTS FOR THEIR POLITICAL GAIN.

FAR COMMANDO UNITS HAVE MOVED ABOUT IN THE AREA NORTH OF THE NAM OU RIVER IN AN ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH A NOMINAL BUFFER ZONE BETWEEN THE ENEMY AND PAK OU. DURING THE PAST WEEK SEVERAL CLASHES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE PAK OU RESULTING IN SEVERAL FRIENDLY KIA.

#### KIENG NGEUN AREA

ON 18 FEBRUARY UNITS OPERATING IN THE PHA THEUNG AND PAK BAC AREAS CAME UNDER ATTACK AND WITHDREW FROM THEIR POSITIONS TO ADJACENT AREAS.



FAR ATTEMPTS TO MOVE BACK INTO PAK BAC ON THE 21<sup>st</sup> PRECIPITATED A FIREFIGHT WITH THE P.L. AND IN THE CROSSFIRE THE VILLAGE BURNED RESULTING IN THE REPORTED DESTRUCTION OF ALL OF THE VILLAGE'S 43 HOUSES. AT THIS JUNCTURE THE POPULATION REMAINING IN PAK BAC SPLIT, ONE GROUP MOVING TO XIENG NGEUN, THE OTHER MOVING NORTH WITH THE P.L. THE LATTER GROUP, 8 FAMILIES 34 PEOPLE, HAS SINCE (8 MARCH) ESCAPED TO XIENG NGEUN. THE FOLLOWING REFUGEES HAVE BEEN DISPLACED SINCE 15 FEBRUARY FROM THE PAK BAC/PAK SA AREA:

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>DATE DISPLACED</u>
PAK BAC	8	34	8 MARCH
PAK SA	4	34	16 FEBRUARY
SAPHEUN	11	67	"
PHOU KHOUA	35	196	"

ALL REFUGEES FROM THESE VILLAGES ARE CURRENTLY LOCATED AT XIENG NGEUN.

ON 26 FEBRUARY THE ENEMY ROCKETED XIENG NGEUN BUT ALL OF THE ROUNDS FELL SHORT OF THE VILLAGE.

PERHAPS THE MOST VOLITILE ~~OR~~ ZONE IN THE GREATER XIENG NGEUN AREA IS SITUATED ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE NAM KHAN RIVER BETWEEN KHOK VANE, NATANE, XIENG LOM, AND XIENG NGEUN AND THE PHOU PHA THEUNG RIDGE. ON 26 FEBRUARY THE P.L. ENTERED XIENG LOM AND PLANTED A FLAG BEFORE WITHDRAWING. THIS ACTION CAUSED THE XIENG LOM VILLAGERS (99 FAMILIES 526 PEOPLE) TO SEEK TEMPORARY REFUGE AT BAN NOUNSAVATH. MOST OF THE CLASHES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE LP AREA SINCE THE CEASEFIRE HAVE OCCURRED IN THIS AREA, AND EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT THE ENEMY HAS STOCKPILED QUANTITIES OF MUNITIONS ALONG THE PHA THEUNG RIDGE.

IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT REFUGEES FROM THE RIGHT BANK OF THE NAM KHAN WILL SOON BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME. IT IS ALSO QUESTIONABLE WHETHER THE KHOK VANE/NA TANE AREA REFUGEES WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME. ALTHOUGH BOTH SIDES CLAIM CONTROL OVER THE KOK VANE/NA TANE AREA THE P.L. REPORTEDLY SENT A LETTER TO THE CHAO MUONG OF SOPVI INVITING THE REFUGEES TO RETURN TO THEIR ORIGINAL VILLAGES ON THE CONDITION THAT THEY, THE P.L., ASSUME CONTROL OF THE AREA AND THE POPULATION. IT HAS NEVERTHELESS BEEN REPORTED THAT REFUGEES FROM BOTH THE KOK VANE AND NAM KHAN AREAS ARE RETURNING HOME IN SMALL GROUPS TO PREPARE RICE FIELDS.

THE MILITARY SITUATION IN AREAS ADJACENT TO XIENG NGEUN, INCLUDING THE LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY, HAS REMAINED QUIET, THE ONLY REPORTED ACTIVITY BEING ATTEMPTS AT FRATERNIZATION BY SOLDIERS OF BOTH SIDES.



PAGE FIVE

DURING THE WEEK OF 12 MARCH FAR INVITED THE P.L. FROM THE PAK BAC AREA TO LUNCH AT KHONE VAI (VIC TG1185). ON THE 15th THE P.L. REPAID THE VISIT BY INVITING FAR TO PAK BAC. THAT EVENING BOTH GROUPS PROCEEDED TO A PARTY AT DONE MO.

SIMILAR ATTEMPTS AT FRATERNIZATION HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY IN THE VICINITY OF VILLAGE #12 (HOUET SATEP). ON 6 MARCH A LAO THEUNG DELEGATION MET WITH THE P.L. CHAO MUONG (KHAMPHAY, A LAO THEUNG FROM THE AREA) OF MUONG KHAMPHENG (A P.L. ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT SITUATED GEOGRAPHICALLY WEST OF THE NAM KHAN RIVER AND NORTH OF THE LNK VALLEY) TO EXCHANGE IDEAS ON CURRENT AFFAIRS. IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT BETWEEN ONE AND TWO HUNDRED FAMILIES LIVING IN THIS P.L. CONTROLLED AREA (LARGELY IN THE VICINITY OF SG8674) ARE IN NEED OF FOOD AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.

#### POSTWAR PLANNING

ON 15 FEBRUARY THE CHAO KHOUENG OF LUANG PRABANG PRESIDED OVER A MEETING ATTENDED BY MSW, RLG/AGR AND ORA TO DISCUSS POSTWAR REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT REQUIREMENTS. THE DISCUSSION CENTERED AROUND POTENTIAL RELOCATION AREAS FOR LANDLESS REFUGEES WHO CHOOSE FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER NOT TO RETURN TO THEIR ORIGINAL VILLAGES AND THE AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL OF THESE AREAS FOR RICE AND DIVERSIFIED CASH CROPS.

IN PLACING THE PROBLEM OF POSTWAR REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT IN PERSPECTIVE THE CHAO KHOUENG STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR FREE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE FROM ONE ZONE TO ANOTHER THE TERM "CEASEFIRE IN PLACE" IMPLIES THE EXISTENCE OF SEPARATE ZONES AND THAT IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER REFUGEES WOULD SOON RETURN TO THOSE P.L. OCCUPIED AREAS FROM WHICH THEY FLED AS LONG AS THE LAOS SITUATION REMAINS UNSTABLE. EVEN IN THE EVENT OF A LASTING SETTLEMENT THE CHAO KHOUENG STATED THAT IT IS PROBABLE THAT CERTAIN GROUPS MAY NOT BE WILLING TO RETURN HOME. THE GENERAL CONCENSUS NOW SEEMS TO BE THAT REFUGEES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME UNTIL AFTER THE FORMATION OF A FUNCTIONAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS, A PROCESS WHICH MAY TAKE AS LONG AS TWO OR THREE YEARS.

IN VIEW OF THE LANDLESS STATUS OF MOST LUANG PRABANG REFUGEES THE PROBLEM OF POSTWAR RELOCATION RAISES THE QUESTION OF LAND AVAILABILITY IN AN AREA OF CRITICAL LAND SHORTAGES. THREE LAND AREAS WERE DESIGNATED AS POTENTIAL RELOCATION SITES:

THONG KHANG-	300 FAMILIES
MUONG NANE-	500 FAMILIES
RLG#13 BETWEEN	
EG NGEUN/PHOU KHOUN-	1000 FAMILIES

WHILE THONG KHANG AND THE ROUTE #13 AREAS WOULD BE SUITABLE ONLY TO CULTIVATION OF HILL RICE, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT IF THE AREA SOUTH OF MUONG NANE AS FAR AS THE MEKONG CAN BE IRRIGATED AS MANY AS 1000 HECTARES OF PADDY LAND COULD BE DEVELOPED.

PARTIAL SUPPORT RECIPIENTS

FOLLOWING A POOR RICE HARVEST LAST YEAR DUE TO DROUGHT AND INSECT MANIFESTATION A NUMBER OF OLD REFUGEES ON THE LUANG PRABANG AREA HAVE REQUESTED ADDITIONAL FOOD SUPPORT THROUGH HARVEST 1973. EACH OF THE AREAS WHICH HAVE REQUESTED PARTIAL SUPPORT ASSISTANCE IS PRESENTLY BEING SURVEYED TO DETERMINE LOCAL STATUS AND NEEDS. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REFUGEES REQUIRING ASSISTANCE MAY REACH 6000 PEOPLE. A SEPARATE REPORT WILL BE PREPARED OUTLINING CONDITIONS IN EACH OF THE AREAS.

THE QUESTION HAS BEEN RAISED AS TO WHETHER OR NOT MANY LOCAL REFUGEE GROUPS POSSESS THE CAPABILITY TO ATTAIN SELF SUFFICIENCY IN VIEW OF THE PROBLEM OF LAND SHORTAGES. (SEE MY MEMO TO CONNICK, "REFUGEE AGRICULTURE", DATED 2 APRIL.

CLEARANCE:

  
LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

cc. AC/LP  
ORA/LP



TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA

19 MAY 1973

FROM: F.C. BENSON. ORA/LP

SUBJ: SITREP--1 APRIL-15 MAY

PAK OU AREA

THE TREND OF EVENTS IN THE PAK OU AREA SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT ATTEMPTS ARE BEING MADE BY BOTH SIDES TO NORMALIZE LOCAL AFFAIRS. NEGOTIATIONS AT REGULAR MEETINGS BETWEEN PL AND RLG MILITARY AND CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES (MUONG AND BATTALLION LEVEL) APPEAR TO CENTER PRIMARILY AROUND THE RETURN OF AREA REFUGEES TO THEIR ORIGINAL HOMES ALONG THE MEKONG AND NAM OU RIVERS. BOTH SIDES HAVE EVIDENTLY AGREED TO PERMIT MOVEMENT OF CIVILIAN BOAT TRAFFIC (THE PL HAVE ESTABLISHED A CHECK POINT AT BAN KHOK (TH0820)) AS FAR AS HAT KHO (TH1625) ON THE NAM OU AND LATHAN (TH0323) AND POINTS BEYOND ON THE MEKONG. IN AN ATTEMPT TO REVIVE TRADE BENEFICIAL TO BOTH SIDES, AND PROVISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THE EXCHANGE OF MAIL. WITH THE MOVEMENT HOME OF REFUGEES (7 MAY) FROM XIENG MENE (TH0003) TO NGOI HAI (SH94210), 15 FAMILIES 84 PEOPLE AND KHOC PHOU (SH9623), 5 FAMILIES 28 PEOPLE AUTHORIZED BY LOCAL MILITARY AUTHORITIES (KHOUENG OFFICIALS WERE UNAWARE OF THE MOVE, AND THE MOVE RUNS CONTRARY TO AN ORDER FROM THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR DIRECTING THAT NO REFUGEES SHOULD RETURN HOME AT THIS TIME) IT WOULD APPEAR AS THOUGH PROGRESS (?) IS BEING MADE IN THE FIELD OF REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES. THIS MOVE WAS PRECEDED IN APRIL BY THE RETURN HOME OF 7 REFUGEE FAMILIES TO LATHAMOUN (RD1218) FROM HOUET YO (TH0623), THE VILLAGE TO WHICH THEY WERE ORDERED TO MOVE IN APRIL BY GENERAL SAYAVONG. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER OR NOT THE LATTER REFUGEE GROUP WAS AUTHORIZED AS SUCH TO RETURN TO LATHAMOUN.

AS LATE AS 9 MAY THE PL STATED THAT NO CIVILIANS OR FAR SOLDIERS WOULD BE PERMITTED TO MOVE BEYOND KHOC KHAM (TH0323) ON THE MEKONG. IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THIS ORDER IS ALL INCLUSIVE. THAT THE PL HAVE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO BUY GASOLINE AND KEROSENE FROM RECENTLY RETURNED NGOI HAI REFUGEES INDICATES THAT COMMERCE AND TRADE MAY BE PERMITTED BY THE PL BETWEEN LUANG PRABANG AND AREAS BEYOND KHOC KHAM.

CIVILIANS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO MOVE TO VILLAGES UPSTREAM FROM PAK OU ALONG THE NAM OU RIVER. A TWELFTH HOUR ATTEMPT TO SECURE THE AREA ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE NAM OU ACROSS FROM PAK OU PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED PII MAI VISIT OF THE KING ON 15 APRIL PRECIPITATED A CLASH ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE NAM OU OPPOSITE HAT MAT (TH1320) ON 5 APRIL RESULTING IN 7 FRIENDLY WIA AND 5 KIA. ALTHOUGH BOAT TRAFFIC IS ABLE TO MOVE UP THE NAM OU THE LIKLIHOOD OF MILITARY CONFRONTATION ALONG THE NAM OU FRONT MAY BE A FACTOR IN NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO THE REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES FROM THAT AREA.

PAK OU AREA REFUGEES HAVE MOVED FROM LOCATIONS NEAR LUANG PRABANG TO THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

THINE HONG

(TH0914)

HOUEI MARK  
HOUEI PENE  
PHA KHOUANG  
NONG KHAM  
HOUEI PONG  
LASAPONG

KHONE KIENE

(TH0817)

PHA THENNG  
HAT KHO  
KHONE KHAM  
HOUEI KO  
HOUEI CHAK  
MOK HO  
MOK LEK  
KEO TAI  
HOUEI PAO  
HOUEI KHA YAI  
HOUEI KHAE  
LATHAN  
KHOC PHOU  
NGOI HAI

HOUEI KHO

(TH0818)

VANG LE  
HOUEI HO  
PAK OU  
HAT MAT  
LATHAHAE

KHOC NGEUAK

(TH2116)

BAN FAI  
PAK CHEK  
HOUEI CHIM  
KHONE HOUNG

BAN MUONG

(TH0719)

BAN KHOC  
NAXANG  
HOUEI ANG  
HOUEI SEUANG  
PHA TAO  
KHOC KHAM

HOUEI YO

(TH0622)

LATKHAMOUN  
HOUEI YO LAO  
HOUEI YO NAI

CERTAIN OF THESE VILLAGES, ESPECIALLY BAN MUONG AND HOUEI YO, ARE FREQUENTLY VISITED BY THE PL. BAN MUONG OFTEN SERVES AS A MEETING PLACE BETWEEN THE PL AND RLG.

PAK XEUANG-KOK VANE/NATANE

THE RETURN HOME OF REFUGEES TO VILLAGES IN RLG CONTROLLED ZONES ALONG THE NAM XEUANG HAS PROGRESSED, AND IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT REFUGEES HAVE RETURNED TO CLEAR UPLAND RICE FIELDS AS FAR NORTH AS BAN LE (TH1717). THE RETURN OF REFUGEES TO THEIR VILLAGES HAS BEEN DISCOURAGED BY THE PL, HOWEVER. ON 2 MAY, AND AGAIN ON 8 MAY IT WAS REPORTED THAT PL AT KENG LUANG (TH2119) SAID THAT NO VILLAGERS SHOULD MOVE NORTH INTO THE AREA ALONG THE MAN XEUANG UNTIL THE FORMATION OF A COALITION GOVERNMENT. KENG LUANG IS THE NORTHERNMOST VILLAGE FROM WHICH REFUGEES HAVE FLED.

NO REFUGEES FROM THE KOK VANE-NATANE AREA (TH1507) HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES.

*all refs have returned home w/ exception Keng Luang, now located at Phongsavan*



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THEIR HOMES. IN MARCH THE PL ALLEGEDLY SENT A LETTER TO THE CHAO MUONG OF XOPVI INVITING ALL REFUGEES FROM THE AREA TO RETURN HOME, THE ONLY CONDITION BEING THAT THE PL WOULD ASSUME CONTROL OVER THE AREA. MORE RECENTLY THE PL COMMANDER AT BO HE (TH2010) INVITED THE RLG MILITARY COMMANDER IN THE KOK VANE AREA TO ATTEND A MEETING AT BO HE, LATER TO BE RECIPROCATED BY A MEETING AT KOK VANE, REGARDING THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE BACK INTO THE AREA.

A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF TROOP MOVEMENT HAS BEEN REPORTED ALONG THE NAM PHA RIVER UPSTREAM FROM BO HE. THE PL CLAIM THAT IF A COALITION GOVERNMENT IS NOT FORMED THEY WILL HAVE TO RESORT TO FORCE OF ARMS IN ORDER TO GAIN A SETTLEMENT. THE PL HAVE SCHEDULED A MEETING OF LOCAL VILLAGERS REMAINING IN THE KOK VANE AREA ON 20 MAY TO BE HELD AT THE SITE OF A PL FLAG A SHORT DISTANCE SOUTH OF BO HE.

THE PL MUONG OFFICE IN THE SOPVI AREA IS AT TH4509.

ALTHOUGH THE CHAO MUONG OF SOPVI CLAIMS THAT AREA REFUGEES (NOW LOCATED AT HOUA NA KANG IN LP) ARE CLEARING RICE FIELDS IN THE BAN SIEO (TH1610) AND KOK VANE AREAS, LOCAL ORA STAFF MEMBERS REPORT THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE KOK VANE AREA REFUGEES HAVE REMAINED IDLE.

#### PHOU LUANG NEUA

THE CHAO MUONG OF MUONG LA REPORTED THAT ON 1 MARCH 7 FAMILIES 42 PEOPLE, MEO REFUGEES FROM BAN KIOCHALY, TASSENG LONG YA (MUONG SAI AREA), MOVED NORTH TO THE TONG TOO (LS-186) AREA. THESE PEOPLE WERE MEO REFUGEES WHO LIVED AT PHOU LUANG NEUA (TH0114). GIVEN THE POOR AGRICULTURE POTENTIAL OF THE PHOU LUANG NEUA AREA THE REFUGEES PRESUMABLY MOVED NORTH IN THE WAKE OF A CEASEFIRE IN SEARCH OF BETTER FARMLAND.

#### RIGHT BANK NAM KHAN RIVER

LAO THEUNG REFUGEES FROM HOUEI ANG (TG1497), 9 FAMILIES 44 PEOPLE; HOUEI NOK (TH1400), 14 FAMILIES 64 PEOPLE; PHA KHAO (SAME AREA), 11 FAMILIES 52 PEOPLE; BAN SOUAN (VIC TGO892), 34 FAMILIES 218 PEOPLE; ~~XXX~~ BAN SA (TGO693), 21 FAMILIES 103 PEOPLE; AND PAK HOUEI YEN (TGO791), 45 FAMILIES 257 PEOPLE, HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR ORIGINAL VILLAGES (BEGINNING IN MARCH) ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE NAM KHAN IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT MILITARY AND POLITICAL CONTROL OVER THE AREA IS STILL BEING CONTESTED.

ON 3 APRIL BV-16 LAUNCHED A FIVE-DAY CLEARING OPERATION TO SWEEP THE BOUAM OH (VIC TQ1191), HOUEI FAI (TG1292), HOUEI ANG (TG1497) AREA. ON 6 APRIL THE PL MADE CONTACT WITH THE NAIRAN OF BOUAM OH, THE LOCAL ADO COMMANDER, IN AN ATTEMPT TO REACH A LOCAL CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT



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ON 8 APRIL 30 PL ENTERED BAN SOUAN LUANG (TG0792) ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE NAM KHAN AND CAPTURED 6 PEOPLE (REFUGEES). ALSO ON 8 APRIL THE PL ENTERED HOUEI SAE (TG1096) AND TOLD REFUGEES NOT TO MOVE ABOUT IN THE AREA BECAUSE OF MINES. THE PL DISTRIBUTED LEAFLETS IN THE XIENG LOM-BAN SOUAN AREA ON 14 APRIL CLAIMING THE AREA TO BE THEIRS. THE RELATIVE LULL IN ACTIVITY IN THE AREA DURING THE LATTER PART OF APRIL WAS DISTURBED ON 8 MAY WHEN A BV-16 PATROL INVESTIGATING A PL ATTEMPT TO BUY GOODS IN THE HOUEI SAE AREA CLASHED WITH THE PL. BV-16 HAD ONLY RECENTLY REPLACED BV-17 AT THE TIME OF THE CLASH. OTHER REPORTS OF ENEMY MOVEMENT IN THE AREA WERE REPORTED IN MID-MAY.

THE SITUATION IN THE TRANS-NAM KHAN AREA CONTINUES TO BE VOLITILE IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT A NUMBER OF REFUGEES HAVE RETURNED HOME. IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT THE PL LEADER IN THE AREA, SUPPOSEDLY A NATIVE OF XIENG LOM, IS ENCOURAGING REFUGEES FROM THE AREA TO RETURN TO THEIR VILLAGES, EVIDENTLY WITH A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF SUCCESS.

PL PROPAGANDA TEAMS WORKING IN THE AREA HAVE WARNED THAT SHOULD A COALITION GOVERNMENT FAIL TO BE FORMED FIGHTING WILL ERUPT.

#### XIENG NGEUN

THE SITUATION IN THE XIENG NGEUN AREA, ALTHOUGH QUIET, MORE A LESS REPRESENTS A STAND-OFF BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. NO MILITARY ACTIVITY HAS BEEN REPORTED, AND THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF NEGOTIATIONS. FAR HAS PREVENTED BOAT TRAFFIC ON THE NAM KHAN BETWEEN XIENG NGEUN AND PAK BAC (TG1686), PRESUMABLY IN AN ATTEMPT TO DENY THE PL ACCESS TO SUPPLIES AND FOODSTUFFS. NEVERTHELESS, IT WAS REPORTED THAT DONE MO (TG0686) VILLAGERS WERE PURCHASING SALT AND OTHER GOODS LOCALLY AND SELLING THEM TO THE ENEMY HELD PAK SA (TG1377) AREA. A FAR UNIT IS SITUATED ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE NAM KHAN ACROSS FROM PAK BAC, REPORTEDLY THE HQ OF THE 407th PL BATTALLION.

ALTHOUGH UNABLE TO RETURN HOME ON A PERMANENT BASIS, AREA REFUGEES MOVE BACK AND FORTH TO THEIR VILLAGES (MOSTLY BETWEEN XIENG NGEUN AND PAK BAC) AND ARE PLANTING UPLAND RICE ON ADJACENT SLOPES.

#### LONG NAM KHAN-THONG KHANG (LS-355)

A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF CONTACT BETWEEN REFUGEES (LAO THEUNG) AND BGR-131 TROOPS (LAO THEUNG), ON THE ONE HAND, AND LOCAL PL (MOSTLY LAO THEUNG), ON THE OTHER, CONTINUES IN THE LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY, PARTICULARLY IN THAT AREA OF THE VALLEY BETWEEN HOUEI KACHAM (SG9878) AND HOUEI SATEP (SG8970). A MEETING BETWEEN A BGR-131 SQUAD LEADER AND SEVERAL PL FROM THE PHA SOK AREA (SG9179) WAS HELD TO DISCUSS



THE LOCAL CEASEFIRE AND THE FREE MOVEMENT OF CIVILIANS AND MILITARY. AS IT IS, PL HAVE FREQUENTLY BEEN REPORTED RIDING ON TAXIS AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES MOVING ON THE LNK ROAD, AND IT HAS EVEN BEEN REPORTED THAT THEY HAVE RIDDEN ON USAID TRUCKS. ON 26 APRIL SIX PL ACCOMPANIED BY KHAMPHENG, THE PL CHAO MUONG OF MUONG KHAMPHENG, SPENT THE NIGHT AT HOUET KACHAM.

NEVERTHELESS, THE PL ARE TRYING TO STRENGTHEN THEIR POLITICAL POSITION IN THE AREA. ALTHOUGH SEVERAL HUNDRED VILLAGERS IN THE PHA SOK AREA ARE SHORT OF RICE THE PL WILL NOT ACCEPT ASSISTANCE FROM THE RLG. THAT LOCAL PL IN THE PHA SOK AREA MAY BE TRYING TO BUILD UP THEIR POPULATION BASE IS INDICATED BY THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE WARNED VILLAGERS AT BOUAM MEUT (SG9888) THAT THEY WILL FORCIBLY BE EVACUATED TO THE PHA SOK AREA IF THEY DO NOT VOLUNTARILY MOVE BY 20 MAY. THE PHA SOK PL HAVE STATED THAT POLITICALLY THEY ARE IN A POSITION TO BARGAIN BUT THAT MILITARILY THEY WOULD PROBABLY TURN TO THE RLG IN THE EVENT OF NEW FIGHTING BECAUSE THEY ARE WEAK MILITARILY.

ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD PL TROOPS (PROBABLY ORIGINATING IN THE PAK HAO (QB9468) AND PHOU VAYSOM (QB9095) AREAS) HAVE MOVED SOUTH ACROSS THE LONG NAM KHAN TOWARDS THE NAM MING RIVER AREA, THE MOST RECENT MOVE BEING ON 22 APRIL WHEN SOME 50 PL PASSED THROUGH VILLAGE #10 (SG9676).

THE ONLY RLG UNIT OPERATING IN THE UPPER REACHES OF THE LNK, INCLUDING THONG KHANG (LS-355) AND POINTS AS FAR SOUTH AS BAN SENESY (SG8350) IS BGR-131, AN IRREGULAR ADC UNIT COMPOSED MOSTLY OF LOCAL LAO THEUNG. ALTHOUGH BASICALLY AN INEFFECTIVE UNIT MILITARILY, BGR-131 PROVIDES POLITICALLY A FRIENDLY PRESENCE IN A RELATIVELY LARGE AREA WHICH, UNTIL 1971 WHEN BGR-131 MOVED INTO THE AREA, WAS SITUATED LARGELY WITHIN THE PL SPHERE OF INFLUENCE. A VACUUM (IN TERMS OF MILITARY PRESENCE) MAY SOON BE CREATED IN THE AREA IF BGR-131 IS DISBANDED FOLLOWING THE PARAMILITARY INTEGRATION.

PL PROPAGANDA TEMAS WE'E REPORTEDLY OPERATING IN THE SENESY (SITE OF A BGR-131 COMPANY) AREA ON 8 MAY, AND SEVERAL VILLAGES BETWEEN SENESY AND PAK NONE (RBO449) HAVE RECENTLY COME UNDER PL CONTROL.

#### MUONG KHAY AREA

PL ACTIVITY--PROPAGANDA, CONSCRIPTION OF RICE, ETC.--HAS BEEN REPORTED IN VILLAGES S-SW OF MUONG KHAY (RB1392)--THA PHENE (RB1486), BAN SIO (RBO882), PHA KOK (RB1080)--DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. MOST OF THE AREA BETWEEN MUONG KHAY AND MUONG MANE ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE MEKONG CAN, FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, BE CONSIDERED AS LYING OUTSIDE THE EFFECTIVE RLG SPHERE OF INFLUENCE. MOST OF THE VILLAGES IN THIS AREA ARE LAO THEUNG, AND ENEMY MOVEMENT INTO THE PHA SOK AREA (SG9179--SEE ABOVE) FROM VAYSOM AND PAK HAO PASSES THROUGH THIS AREA.



ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE MEKONG ACROSS FROM MUONG KHAY, BAN NA KHENG (RB0895), A PREVIOUSLY "NEUTRAL" TRADING VILLAGE SITUATED ON THE NAM LUM RIVER, WAS EFFECTIVELY OCCUPIED BY THE PL ON 2 MAY. IN ADDITION TO RAISING A FLAG AT NA KHEN, THE PL HAVE ESTABLISHED A CHECKPOINT TO CONTROL CIVILIAN TRAFFIC AND HAVE INSTRUCTED THE LOCAL INHABITANTS TO APPLY FOR PASSES FROM THE LOCAL NAIBAN OR TASSENG. NO MOVEMENT WILL BE PERMITTED UNLESS THE TRAVELLER POSSESSES A PASS. THE PL INDICATED THAT FAR SHOULD ESTABLISH A SIMILAR CHECKPOINT AT BAN SALEUAN (SG8296). ON 7 MAY BV-15, THE FAR UNIT POSITIONED AT BAN SALEUAN, MOVED THE THE BAN SOM-BAN NA (SH9912) AREA.

ADMINISTRATIVELY, THE NA KHENG AREA LIES WITHIN PL MUONG SISIP (40). THE MUONG OFFICE IS SITUATED AT BAN HOUET SAI KHAO (QB9391), A MEO VILLAGE LOCATED ON PHOU VAYSOM. THE CHAO MUONG IS NAI SEN TANG, AND HIS DEPUTY IS PHO PHE.

IN THE BAN CHONG (RC1402) AREA NORTH OF MUONG KHAY BGR-132 TROOPS HAVE REPORTED~~EX~~ MOVEMENT OF PL SOUTH FROM PHOU NANG VANG (RC1213). THEIR MISSION IS REPORTEDLY TO CONTROL BOAT TRAFFIC ON THE MUONG KHAY STRETCH OF THE MEKONG. THE PL IN THE BAN CHONG AREA HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN SEVERAL OF THE LOCAL VILLAGES.

SIMILAR TO BGR-131, BGR-132 WAS RECENTLY FORMED AND IS A LOCALLY CONSCRIPTED IRREGULAR ADC UNIT REPRESENTING THE ONLY FRIENDLY PRESENCE IN A BORDERLINE AREA.

#### PAK NEUN AREA

FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES THE AREA ON THE MEKONG SOUTH OF, AND INCLUDING PAK MONE (RB0449) IS UNDER PL CONTROL. ONE OF THE PL'S PRIMARY UNDERTAKINGS IN THIS AREA, EXTENDING AS FAR SOUTH AS MUONG MET (LS-158), IS TO PURCHASE RICE (1500 KIP/KALONG) AND OTHER SUPPLIES WITH A SUM OF 25 MILLION KIP (RLG) WHICH THEY HAVE RECEIVED FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE SOME 100 MT OF MILLED RICE AND 800 KALONGS OF PADDY IS ALLEGEDLY BEING PURCHASED FOR USE AS RAINY SEASON FOOD SUPPLY FOR REFUGEES (IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT THE PL ARE RESELLING RICE TO RICE DEFICIENT VILLAGERS AT PRICES LOWER THAN COST). IN FACT, LP OFFICIALS CLAIM THAT THE PL PLAN IS TO DEPRIVE RICE DEFICIENT AREAS SUCH AS LP OF A SOURCE OF RICE, THUS CAUSING THE RICE PRICE TO SOAR HIGHER AND PROMOTING SOCIAL DISCONTENT AGAINST THE RLG. THAT THE LATTER MAY BE THE CASE IS EVIDENCED, FOR EXAMPLE, BY THE FACT THAT THE PL WILL NOT PERMIT "OUTSIDERS" TO PURCHASE RICE AT BAN KANG (VIC RB1444), A MEO-LAO THEUNG VILLAGE NE OF PAK NEUN (QB9730). THE PL CHIEF IN THE PAK NEUN AREA IS A DEUANIST MAJOR BY THE NAME OF SIVONG.



PL PROPAGANDA TEAMS HAVE BEEN BUSY ALONG THE ENTIRE STRETCH OF THE MEKONG SOUTH OF PAK HAO. ON 3 MAY THE PL CALLED TOGETHER 18 NAIBANS, TASSENGS, SCHOOL TEACHERS AND CIVILIAN FUNCTIONARIES FOR A 3-DAY TRAINING SESSION ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CEASEFIRE AND THE HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE OF A PEACE SETTLEMENT AFTER MANY YEARS OF OUTSIDE AGGRESSION BEGINNING WITH THE BURMESE. OTHER 3-DAY SESSIONS ARE ALSO REPORTEDLY BEING HELD IN OTHER VILLAGES BORDERING THE MEKONG.

PL TROOPS OPENLY TRAVEL BY BOAT BETWEEN PAK HAO AND THE PAK MONE AREA.

#### SAYABOURY

EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT THE PL ARE BUSY CONSOLIDATING UNDER THEIR CONTROL TERRITORY IN SAYABOURY PROVINCE, WHICH IN THE PAST HAS BEEN UNDER ONLY MARGINAL RLG CONTROL, i.e. EVERYTHING WHICH LIES OUTSIDE MAJOR TOWNS AND ZONES SUCH AS KENETAO, PAKLAY, SAYABOURY, NAM TAN AND POSSIBLY HONGSA. THE ONLY EXCEPTIONS IN THIS SITUATION APPEAR TO BE THE FG AREAS IN THE WEST-CENTRAL BORDER AREAS OF THE PROVINCE BETWEEN HONGSA AND PHOU MIENG (LS-96), INCLUDING PHOU HOUA MOUEI (LS-67). THESE UNITS CONTINUE TO HOLD THE AREA AND POPULATION WITHIN THEIR SPHERES OF INFLUENCE INTACT, AND PROBABLY REPRESENT THE ONLY EFFECTIVE COHESIVE POLITICAL FORCE IN THE RURAL AREAS OF THE PROVINCE. DISSOLUTION OF THESE LOCAL INDIGENOUS UNITS WOULD DIRECTLY JEOPARDIZE THE LOYALTY OF THE PEOPLE IN THESE AREAS, ~~TEXTXXXXXX~~ MOSTLY MEO AND PHAI ETHNIC MINORITIES, TO THE RLG AND CONSEQUENTLY JEOPARDIZE THE RLG PRESENCE IN THE AREA.

THE PL HAVE TIGHTENED THEIR CONTROL OVER THE TRAIL BETWEEN HONGSA AND SAYABOURY (VIA NA SO-NA SAN, QB7352), AND A CHECKPOINT HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN ESTABLISHED AT BAN NA KUANG NEAR PHOU DAO (QB6543). THE TRAIL AREA, WHICH ALSO SERVES AS AN ENEMY SUPPLY ROUTE, IS BOUNDED ON EITHER SIDE BY FRIENDLY FG OR ADC UNITS, FG-73 AT PHOU LENG (LS-323) ON THE WEST AND AN MR-II ADC UNIT AT PHOU HOUA MOUEI (LS-67) ON THE EAST. THE PL HAVE MOVED INTO THE AREA BORDERING ON THE MEKONG EAST OF LS-67, AND THE LS-67 AREA'S 3000 PEOPLE ARE NO LONGER PERMITTED TO TRAVEL TO THE FORMERLY "NEUTRAL" TRADING VILLAGE OF PAK HAO. THE ENTIRE AREA NORTH OF PHOU HOUA MOUEI AND EAST OF HONGSA--THE PHOU SAM PHAN/PHOU DOK MAI AREA--CONTINUES TO BE UNDER STRONG PL CONTROL. IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE PL RECENTLY MOVED 20-30 FAMILIES FROM PHOU SAM PHAN (VIC QB8080) TO PHOU DOK MAI TO THE WEST.

CIVILIAN MOVEMENT INTO AND OUT OF THE AREA SOUTH OF PHOU DAO BETWEEN SAYABOURY AND FG-72 AND FG-75 AREAS AT PHOU KHONG (LS-42) AND HOUET DOOK (QB5320), RESPECTIVELY, HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN RESTRICTED BY THE PL. WITH ONLY A FEW EXCEPTIONS THE AREA SOUTH OF SAYABOURY ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~



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ALONG THE MEKONG RIVER BETWEEN THADEUA AND PAKLAY IS UNDER ENEMY CONTROL. BETWEEN NAM TAN AND PAKLAY THE PL HAVE CONSOLIDATED THEIR CONTROL IN THE AREA BOUNDED BY MUONG VA (QB4434), MUONG PA (QA7553) AND MUONG LIAP (QA8045). MUONG PA IS REPORTEDLY THE PL HEADQUARTERS IN THE AREA. THE AREA SOUTH OF NAM PHOUET (QA6593), INCLUDING NALÉ (QA7070) CONTINUES TO BE WITHIN THE PL SPHERE OF INFLUENCE (ALTHOUGH PROBABLY NOT FIRMLY SO).

IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE PROVINCE "BANDIT" ACTIVITY HAS BEEN REPORTED IN THE KENETAO AREA. TWO FG COMPANIES ARE LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWESTERN PART OF THE PROVINCE AT PHOU NONG LUANG (LS-322) AND PHOU MIENG (LS-96).

YOUNG BOYS (AROUND FIFTEEN YEARS OF AGE) HAVE RECENTLY BEEN SENT FROM VILLAGES BORDERING ON THE MEKONG NORTH OF PAKLAY TO PHOU SAM PHAN VIA PAK NEUN, PAK MONE AND PAK HAO FOR TRAINING IN MUONG SAI. ON 19 APRIL 18 BOYS FROM THE PAK NEUN AREA WENT TO PHOU SAM PHAN, FOLLOWED ON THE 29th BY 40 BOYS FROM BAN NA TOUNG (QA8782) AND BAN NA KHAN (QA8272). IN EARLY APRIL 4 GIRLS FROM THE THADEUA AREA WERE SENT FOR TRAINING. SEVERAL OTHER BOYS FROM VILLAGES NORTH OF THADEUA--BAN XONG (RBO785) AND BAN XONG TAI (QB9776)--VOLUNTEERED FOR TRAINING IN MUONG SAI.

#### ANALYSIS

IN SUMMARY, IT APPEARS THAT DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME SINCE THE CEASEFIRE PL ACTIVITY HAS INCREASINGLY SHIFTED FROM THE MILITARY FIELD TO THE POLITICAL FIELD IN LUANG PRABANG AND SAYABOURY PROVINCES MARKED BY A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD OF FLAG RAISING IN MARCH AND AN UPSURGE OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN THE FORM OF TRAINING AND PROPAGANDA SESSIONS AND GENERAL CONTACT WITH THE PEOPLE BEGINNING IN APRIL.

THIS INITIATIVE (ASIDE FROM FLAG RAISING) HAS NOT BEEN MATCHED BY THE RLQ. THERE APPEARS TO BE LITTLE CONTACT OR COORDINATION BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN BRANCHES IN RESPONDING TO PL EFFORTS, AND IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER OR NOT LOCAL CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES ARE EVEN FULLY AWARE OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE PL ARE MAKING HEADWAY IN VARIOUS AREAS OF THE PROVINCE, ESPECIALLY ALONG THE MEKONG RIVER AND IN LONG NEGLECTED (BY THE RLQ) BORDER AREAS.

REGARDING REFUGEES, PL PROPAGANDA, ON THE ONE HAND, HAS GENERALLY URGED REFUGEES TO RETURN TO THEIR OLD HOMES AND TO ATTAIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, WHILE THE RLQ STANCE HAS BEEN TO ENCOURAGE (ORDER) REFUGEES TO STAY PUT FOR THE TIME BEING AND MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO ATTAIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT THEIR PRESENT LOCATIONS.



PARTIAL SUPPORT

DURING APRIL A NUMBER OF VILLAGES INHABITED BY OLD REFUGEES HAVE REQUESTED PARTIAL FOOD SUPPORT FOLLOWING A POOR HARVEST LAST YEAR TO TIDE THEM OVER THROUGH HARVEST 873:

<u>PRESENT LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
THIN KEO (142/739)	HAT SOA	22	102
	HOUEI PENE	22	100
	SIMONGKHOUN	31	167
	HATTEU	12	82
	NA HAI	11	57
	NAM BAC	7	43
	NAM NGA	23	131
	LUM NEUA	14	57
HOUEI PHAY (269/1286)	PAVIE		
	TANONG PO	7	33
	LUONG MIENG	2	17
	PHA TOUP	4	19
	HOUEI SON	3	12
	MOK KON	7	28
	MOK CHA LEUK	2	9
	HOUEI LIENG TAI	1	8
	HOUEI LIENG NEUA	3	13
	HOUEI TA	3	13
	KIO KHA	2	9
	MOK CHAK	6	23
	DONG NOI	5	21
	DONG LANH	2	8
	KOUNG LANG	3	11
	SA NANG PEE	1	5
	HOUEI LAI NEUA	2	7
	KIO KHO	7	30
	HOUEI LIENG TAI	1	5
	KONG THA	7	34
	KHA NENG	4	26
	HOUEI OUTH	4	21
	NAM POUNG	4	22
	HOUEI KANENG		
	HOUEI KANENG	5	26
	HOUEI EN	8	44
	HOUEI PHEE	7	29
	SEN YOTH	7	36
	HOUEI TA LO KUANG	6	26
	NAM PEUP	8	31
	HOUEI SAN NEUA	9	39
	BAN THONG	7	27

<u>PRESENT LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG. VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
HOUEI PHAY (CONT)	HOUEI OH	6	25
	BAN POUNG	8	29
	HOUEI PHOUK	5	17
	NAM TONG	2	10
	HOUEI SANG TAI	1	3
	KIO OUNG	5	19
	PHONE SAI	4	20
	<u>PHOU THOUM</u>		
	PHOU THOUM	7	51
	HOUEI LANG	4	25
	LING LANG	9	51
	HOUEI NONG	9	37
	HOUEI KAP	10	65
	KIO TA KONG	8	40
	PHO ONTH	2	10
	MOC POTH	3	21
	MOC SAI	10	64
	HOUEI HENG	5	21
	CHA LENG	6	41
	KIO CHA RON	6	17
	SEN LATH	10	47
	NAM PLONG	10	31
	NAM PHENE	2	10
NOUNSAVATH	PAK CHEK	57	265
(61/283)	HAT SOA	4	18
HOUEI SAI NOI	LANG CHAK	40	237
(91/566)	KA LANG	20	107
	PONG PHIA	31	222
BAN EN NOK	LONG CHOK YAI	28	128
(53/238)	LONG CHOK NOI	14	69
	MOK PLUE	11	41
HOUEI ONH	HOUEI PHOU NEUA	2	14
(84/396)	PHOU NEUA	5	17
	HOUEI HOK	4	13
	HOUEI SANG	3	15
	POUNG LAI	3	9
	KA LANG TAP NOI	2	11
	NOK SA PO	2	7
	SENE KHAM	5	31
	KA LANG TAP	3	11
	TA VING	1	6
	KOC NGIANE	3	26
	KA TENG KLA	4	17



<u>PRESENT LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
HOUEI ONH (CONT)	NAM SA TONG	2	8
	NAM TOTH	8	39
	TA LO LOM	3	12
	KA TANG KHE	3	18
	SEN SOU RIM	8	33
	CHAK CHANG	12	60
	KONG RA HANG	2	11
	SENE PANYA	5	21
	CHAK PHEE	4	17
	HOUEI YEN (84/368)	HOUEI TAM	4
KIO CHA ROU		3	17
HOUEI NAM BAC		21	83
MOC SA RA		3	20
MOC LA HANG		17	74
SENE INH		6	29
THA NA LUANG		13	51
KIO KHEUANG		9	41
VANG DOUNG		8	39
BAN SING (24/108)		BOUAM LAO	7
	VANG NONG	6	25
	NA VANG	11	55
KHONE KIENE	LATHAN	86	512
HOUEI YO	LATKHAMOUN	10	53
MUONG KHAM (142/923)	NGOI HAI	25	158
	KHOC PHOU	51	319
	KENG KHENE	66	446
PHOU LUANG TAI (160/877)	PHIA TONG SEU	28	162
	LAO LOK	11	58
	LAO YANG	5	32
	PHOU CHA LENG YAI	9	54
	PHINH CHAY	23	123
	PHOU MY	7	44
	LAO LUE	14	63
	HOUEI SANG	11	71
	MAK PLAY	41	219
	PHOU CHA LENG NOI	11	51
PHOU LUANG NEUA (148/820)	HOUEI LANG	8	54
	KIO CHREE	21	105
	NAM KHA	11	56
	BRA SIA VA	22	134
	HOUEI KHANG	33	165
	MOK LAM TANG	23	139
	BAN MONG	9	59
	NAM KHAM	21	108

<u>PRESENT LOCATION</u>	<u>ORIG VILLAGE</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>
PHOU DAM (54/268)	HOUET YAI	20	78
	HON YAI	8	53
	PHOU LY	11	57
	HOUET NAM SATH	15	80
NALUANG (37/173)	PHOU THENE YAI	10	39
	TANG KEN	4	20
	LING LANG TAI	4	22
	PHOU THONG	4	22
	MOC CHONG	15	70

AT A MEETING WITH THE CHAO KHOUENG IT WAS DECIDED TO FEED ONLY THOSE REFUGEES WHO ATTAINED TEMPORARY SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN 1972:

HOUET PHAY	PAK CHEK (NOUNSAVATH)
THIN KEO	LATHAN
PHOU DAM	NGOI HAI
PHOU LUANG TAI	KHOC PHOU
PHOU LUANG NEUA	KENG KHENE

THIS DECISION WAS SUPPORTED BY MSW VIENTIANE.

OF THE OTHER VILLAGES LISTED ABOVE MANY ARE POOR; HOWEVER, THE VAST MAJORITY OF THESE REFUGEES ARE ENGAGED IN DAY LABOR AND THEREFORE HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF EARNING SUFFICIENT MONEY TO BUY RICE (400 KIP/DA) WHILE THEIR FAMILIES ATTEND TO AGRICULTURAL PURSUITS. THE HEALTH SITUATION IN ALL VILLAGES APPEARS TO BE SATISFACTORY.

A SURVEY OF EACH REFUGEE VILLAGE WAS ORDERED BY THE CHAO KHOUENG AND A COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM MSW, ORA, AGR, MUONG AND MIXED GENERAL STAFF WAS ASSIGNED TO MAKE THE SURVEY. THE MAJOR ASPECTS CONSIDERED WERE THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SITUATION OF EACH VILLAGE, HEALTH AND THE RELATIVE ABILITY OF EACH VILLAGE TO PROVIDE FOR ITSELF WITHOUT OUTSIDE FOOD SUPPORT.

DURING A KHOUENG MEETING ON 15 MAY IT WAS DISCLOSED THAT PHENG PHONESAVANH HAD SENT A LETTER TO THE CHAO KHOUENG ORDERING, IN SO MANY WORDS, THAT FOOD AND RELOCATION SUPPORT SHOULD BE GIVEN ALL OLD REFUGEES IN THE PROVINCE. THE MAJOR TOPIC OF THE MEETING WAS THE PROBLEM OF THE PROVINCE'S OLD REFUGEES AND THEIR ABILITY TO ATTAIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY. THE GENERAL CONSENSUS OF THOSE PRESENT AT THE MEETING WAS THAT IT IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT FOR AREA REFUGEES TO ATTAIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN RICE AND THAT OTHER MEANS (CROP DIVERSIFICATION, ETC) SHOULD BE SOUGHT SO THAT MOST PEOPLE WOULD STAND A CHANCE OF BECOMING ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT. GIVEN THE IMMENSE QUANTITY OF RESOURCES REQUIRED, THOSE



PRESENT EXPRESSED SOME DOUBT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT PHENG'S ORDER COULD BE FULFILLED. MSW/LP REPORTED THAT MSW/VTE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE ORDER.

RICE SEED

THE SECOND MAJOR TOPIC OF THE 15 MAY KOUENG MEETING CONCERNED RICE SEED. THE RICE SEED SITUATION IN LUANG PRABANG IS CRITICAL. OF THE PROJECTED REQUIREMENT OF 15,000 KALONGS (5 KALONGS/FAMILY--3000 FAMILIES) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ONLY SOME 1500 KALONGS HAVE BEEN PROCURED THUS FAR, ALL FROM SAYABOURY. THE CHAO KOUENG OF LP SENT AN OFFICIAL NOTE TO THE CK/SYBY ON 15 MAY REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING MORE SEED RICE. THE CK/SYBY MAINTAINS THAT AMPLE SEED ~~IS~~ AVAILABLE IN THE SAYABOURY AREA AND PROMISED SUPPORT IN PROCURING MORE.

JACK MORGAN, AGR/LP, SAYS THAT IR-253 PADDY RICE CAN BE PLANTED IN UPLAND FIELDS. THIS IMPROVED VARIETY IS PRESENTLY BEING HARVESTED IN XIENG NGEUN, MUONG NANE AND NAM TAN, AND COMMITMENTS TO PURCHASE A QUANTITY OF THIS SEED HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO RLG/AGR/LP.

AT THE 15 MAY MEETING IT WAS PROPOSED THAT A SURVEY BE MADE TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH SEED LOCAL REFUGEES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PROCURE THEMSELVES. BASED ON THE SURVEY'S FINDINGS THE TOTAL REQUIREMENT WILL BE READJUSTED, HOPEFULLY DOWNWARD. THE CHAO KOUENG WANTS TO ASSURE THAT EACH FAMILY PLANTS AT LEAST FIVE KALONGS OF SEED.

FCB/fcb  
19/5/73

CLEARANCE: \_\_\_\_\_  
LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

cc. AC/LP  
ARMA/LP  
ORA/LP

male deceased  
50 yrs old.

White Miao vill - Kio Nya

May 73

## MEO BURIAL CEREMONY

- USUALLY 5-6 days long <sup>sacrifice one animal/day</sup> - elaborate
- Play Khene & drum - with which doctor release spirit from body & sends it on its way to spirit world in Mung Ho and wishes it transformed into living being, riches, etc. <sup>Samet of Khene (special for burial ceremony) sends body off to Mung Ho.</sup>
- cut shirt etc so that Chinese will not steal shirt
- no gold, silver etc so Chinese will not steal & kill
- <sup>spirit</sup> return to China when original name was before Miao run out of China
- sacrifice one pig/cow/buffalo = tie rope around pig's neck, or then cow/buff. nose while animal still alive and <sup>put</sup> end of rope in deceased hand so that he will have company on his journey. Then kill pig and feast.
- paper mache hanging for <sup>relative</sup> people's money to be used in Mung Ho to buy food etc. Taken down/<sup>relative</sup> people hold for sticks - money is gift from everyone. Then burn and put on top grave with deceased's shoes, etc.
- chicken put in earthen jar bet. coffin and earth is food for deceased



- After men bury light fire with pot water = each man washes hands and jump over fire because if deceased transforms into bad spirit will not be able inflict illness on individuals and cannot follow them thru fire.
- before lower coffin in ground men grasp lid and bang on coffin many times to assure that deceased will wake up in spirit world and transform into living being.
- Bowl containing rice and egg, and strips of pork hanging from drum ~~drum~~ are food for deceased while lying in state.
- ~~Small brush~~
- at one point women (wife etc) take out hand deceased and stroke it as mark of affection.
- Small brush held by woman is to keep fly off deceased face.

TO: MR WILLIAM LUKEN, ORA/ADMIN

13 JUNE 1973

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP *F.C. Benson*

SUBJ: PERSONNEL

COMMENSURATE WITH THEIR PERFORMANCE, THE ORA LUANG PRABANG HOURLY HIRE EMPLOYEES LISTED BELOW WILL RECEIVE SALARY INCREASES EFFECTIVE THE CURRENT PAYPERIOD ENDING 16 JUNE:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>I.D.</u>	<u>PRESENT SALARY</u>	<u>NEW SALARY</u>
BOUAPHANH	14553	80 KIP/HR	95 KIP/HR
BOUAVANH	14552	80 "	95 "
THONGVANH	15333	96 "	117 "
PHOMPHANH	14077	90 "	101 "
THITOUNKHAM	000664	95 "	117 "
KHAMKHEUANG	083121	152 "	174 "
SOUK SAVATDI	1426	96 "	117 "
THONGVANH	4295	80 "	95 "
PHOU EI	11126	105 "	117 "
CHA THAI CHIOU	000319	80 "	95 "
KHANECHANH	14007	790 KIP/DA	106 "
MANG	54785	80 KIP/HR	95 "
PHAY	54934	80 "	95 "
THIT CHANMEE	3049	790 KIP/DA	106 "
THIT PHOU	14126	790 "	106 "

cc/ ROSS, PERS



To: Jack Williamson

From: F. Benson

Subj: Delta Support

Date: 2 October 1973

Ref: Your memo of 26 September 1973: Discontinuance of refugee-dependent support

- 1) Joint discussion has yielded that your Alternative 2 as stated in your memo would be the preferred course of action in Luang Prabang.
- 2) Sky would prefer to continue dependent rice support through December—the probably x plus 60 period. Early discontinuance of dependent food support as we discussed during your visit on 28 September might, they fear, lead to dissatisfaction within the ranks at a critical point in time, the period of the formation of the new government. Such discontent could be exploited by propaganda and/or provide an excuse for desertion at a time when a strong united front is necessary. Sky feels that support should be continued through 31 December, at which time other cutbacks, such as the release of demobs, will take place.

TO: MR JOHN W. MACQUEEN, AD/RA  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP  
SUBJ: SITREP 15 MAY-30 AUGUST

10 OCTOBER 1973

PAK OU AREA

DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD THE PAK OU AREA EXPERIENCED A CONTINUATION OF THE DIALOGUE INITIATED IN APRIL-MAY BETWEEN THE PL AND RLG AIMED AT ORGANIZING PATTERNS OF TRADE AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. THIS PERIOD ALSO MARKED FURTHER ATTEMPTS ON THE PART OF THE PL TO CONSOLIDATE THEIR POSITION IN AREAS WHICH, SINCE THE CEASEFIRE, THEY CLAIMED TO BE UNDER THEIR CONTROL--NAMESLY, THE LEFT (ABOVE HAT MAT-TH115197) AND RIGHT BANKS OF THE NAM OU, AND THE LEFT (ABOVE BAN KHOK-TH085200) AND RIGHT (ABOVE HOUEI KHAE-BH000233) BANKS OF THE MEKONG.

ACTIVITY IN THE AREA CAN BE GROUPED IN SEVERAL CATEGORIES:

1) ADMINISTRATION:

POPULATION STATISTICS WERE GATHERED (21-28 JUNE) ON ALL INHABITANTS OF VILLAGES ALONG THE MEKONG RIVER--KHOC KHAM, LATHAN, KHOC PHOU AND NGOI HAI. MOST OF THE POPULATION IN THESE VILLAGES CONSISTS EITHER OF REFUGEES WHO HAVE RETURNED HOME OR REFUGEES WHO MOVE BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THEIR TEMPORARY RELOCATION SITES NEAR PAK OU AND THEIR ORIGINAL VILLAGES. (NOTE: FOR MOVEMENT HOME OF KHOC PHOU AND NGOI HAI REFUGEES SEE MY SITREP DATED 19 MAY. NO INFORMATION WAS RECEIVED TO THE EFFECT THAT LATHAN AND KHOC KHAM REFUGEES HAVE PERMANENTLY MOVED HOME ).

A NAIBAN-TASSENG TRAINING PROGRAM WAS HELD AT THE LATKHAMOUN (RC1218) TEMPLE FROM 30 JULY-4 AUGUST--IT IS NOT KNOWN WHICH NAIBANS AND TASSENGS WERE IN ATTENDANCE.

ADMINISTRATIVELY, THE MEKONG RIVER AREA UPSTREAM FROM PAK OU LIES WITHIN MUONG NGA, A PL DISTRICT, WHICH HAS ITS SEAT AT MUONG NGA/BAN THIN (RC1041). THE CHAO MUONG IS NAI THONG CHAN. THE PL LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE OFFICE IS SITUATED IN THE VICINITY OF TH5478.

THE PL HAVE PLACED FLAGS AT BAN KHOC, LATHAN (BH0024) AND NGOI HAI (SH9421).

2) COMMUNICATIONS:

CHECKPOINTS WERE ESTABLISHED AT BAN KHOC, KHOC KHAM (TH036233), LATHAN, NGOI HAI AND KENG KHENE. MOVEMENT OF CIVILIANS IN PL AREAS ALONG THE MEKONG WAS RESTRICTED--AT A MEETING IN LATHAN ON 18 JUNE IT WAS PROCLAIMED THAT LATKHAMOUN VILLAGERS COULD JOURNEY ONLY AS FAR AS NGOI HAI AND THAT NGOI HAI VILLAGERS COULD GO ONLY AS FAR AS LATHAN. PEOPLE WISHING TO TRAVEL UPSTREAM FROM RLG CONTROLLED



PAK OU COULD GO NO FURTHER THAN LATHAN. ALL TRAVELLERS ON THE MEKONG NORTH OF PAK OU WERE ORDERED TO CARRY A PASS.

TRAVEL WAS ALSO PERMITTED ON THE NAM OU AS FAR AS PHA THEUNG (TH176267).

### 3) TRADE

EFFORTS WERE MADE BY THE PL AND RLG TO ENCOURAGE AND REGULATE COMMERCE. ON 29 MAY NAI KHAMPHAN, THE PL ECONOMIC OFFICER FOR LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, MET WITH FAR AT BAN KHOC, PRESUMABLY TO DISCUSS TRADE. ON 15 JUNE THE PL REPORTEDLY INVESTIGATED THE POTENTIAL OF VILLAGERS IN THE LATHAN-MUONG NGA/BAN THIN AREA TO TRADE WITH THE RLG SIDE. ON 1 JULY THE PL APPOINTED THE NAIBAN OF KHOC KHAM CHIEF MERCHANT RESPONSIBLE FOR REGISTERING ALL TRADE IN THE AREA. WHILE THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS UNKNOWN, IT APPEARS THAT TRADE OF GOODS, ESPECIALLY RICE, IS TIGHTLY CONTROLLED. ON 30 AUGUST A GROUP OF VILLAGERS FROM LATKHAMOUN WERE REPORTEDLY ARRESTED BY THE PL FOR SELLING 18 KALONGS OF RICE TO NGOI HAI AND KHOC PHOU REFUGEES. ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF TRADE RESTRICTIONS IS APPARENT IN THE BAN HOUET KHOUN (SH8815) AREA WHERE THE PL STATED THAT ONLY CHICKENS AND SMALL PIGS COULD BE MARKETED.

### 4) REFUGEE RELIEF

UNCONFIRMED REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE PL EITHER SUPPORTED OR PROMISED TO SUPPORT REFUGEES (MOSTLY RETURNEES FROM RLG AREAS) ALONG THE MEKONG WITH RICE. ON 25 MAY THE PL REPORTEDLY ESCORTED A GROUP OF CIVILIANS CARRYING RICE TO SELL TO KENG KHENE REFUGEES AT PAK HOUET KHOUN (SH8815--SMALL GROUPS OF KENG KHENE REFUGEES HAVE RETURNED HOME FROM XIENG MENE) AT THE "OFFICIAL" PRICE OF 640 KIP/KALONG. ON 30 MAY THE PL ALLEGEDLY APPROACHED A FAR AGENT TO ARRANGE FOR THE PURCHASE OF GAS SO THAT RICE FOR NGOI HAI-KHOC PHOU REFUGEES COULD BE BROUGHT BY BOAT FROM HATTEU (QC8406) AND BAN BO (QC7700). ON 11 JULY THE CHAO MUONG OF MUONG NGA WENT TO KHOC KHAM FROM KHOC PHOU (SH9522) AND TOLD REFUGEES THAT THEY WOULD GET 18 KG RICE PER MONTH AND 3 KALONGS OF PADDY PER MONTH FOR A THREE-MONTH PERIOD FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER.

### 5) MILITARY

ON 22 MAY THE PL ORDERED FAR TO MOVE OUT OF HOUET KHAE (TH000233). ON 24 MAY FAR CV-152 (BV-15) MOVED FROM HOUET KHAE TO HOUET YO (TH0621).

### NAM XEUANG AREA

BEGINNING IN MAY CONTACTS WERE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE PL AND RLG IN THE NAM XEUANG AREA WHICH RESULTED IN INCREASED INTERCOURSE



CONFIDENTIAL

BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES.

ON 17 MAY FIVE PL NEAR BAN HAT KHANG (TH185187) TOLD VILLAGERS THAT ALL AREAS OF LUANG PRABANG HAD REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LONG NAM XEUANG, AND THAT IF A DIALOGUE COULD BE OPENED THEY, THE PL, WOULD PROVIDE A BUFFALO AND 100,000 KIP TO THROW A CELEBRATION PARTY. THEY EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE PRESENT INABILITY OF ALL REFUGEES TO RETURN HOME, AND STATED THAT AFTER AN AGREEMENT IS REACHED WITH FAR ALL CIVILIANS COULD TRAVEL FREELY IN THE AREA. ON 20 MAY FORTH PL FROM HOUA KENG (TH218196) WENT TO KENG LUANG (VIC TH2019) AND EXPRESSED TO VILLAGERS THEIR DESIRE TO MEET WITH FAR. ON 21 MAY REPRESENTATIVES FROM BI-17 (FAN), PHONE SAVANG (THE LOCATION OF KHI LUANG AND HOUA KENG REFUGEES) AND BAN LE MET WITH THE PL A PAK HOUET TAM (TH185186). SOMETIME AFTER THIS MEETING, DURING JUNE, KHI LUANG REFUGEES RETURNED HOME (TH182173). BY 21 AUGUST, WHEN FIVE PL POLICE LOCATED AT HOUA KHENG ADVISED THAT TRADE WITH THE RLG WAS PERMISSABLE, RELATIONS ASSUMED A SEMBLANCE OF NORMALACY.

KOKVANE-NATANE AREA

ON 20 MAY FAR AND PL REPRESENTATIVES MET NEAR BAN BO HE (TH2010) AND AGREED TO MAINTAIN THE CEASEFIRE AND TO PERMIT CIVILIANS CARRYING PASSES ISSUED BY EITHER SIDE TO MOVE FREELY TO AND FROM BO HE. ON 21 MAY BI-224 REPRESENTATIVES AND BAN BO HE (LOCATED AT ~~XXXXXX~~-BAN SIEO TH147000) AND PAK PA REFUGEES MET WITH THE PL NORTH OF BO HE.

DURING JUNE ~~KIK~~ VANE-NATANE (TH1708)-BO HE AREA REFUGEES BEGAN EITHER TO RETURN HOME OR MOVE TO ADJACENT AREAS AND TO PREPARE THEIR RICE FIELDS. ONLY TWO VILLAGES ~~00~~ LONG LANH (22/82) AND HOUET LEUK (5/22) MOVED TO PL CONTROLLED BO HE, WHILE BAN BO HE REFUGEES LIVED AT BAN SIEO AND PREPARED THEIR RICE FIELDS NEAR BO HE. ON 6 JUNE NAI KHAMPHAY, BO HE AREA PL POLITICAL OFFICER, AND A TEAM OF PL SURVEYED ALL REFUGEES WHO HAD RETURNED FROM LP TO PLANT RICE IN THE BO HE AREA. BOTH LONG LANH AND HOUET LEUK RECEIVE ORA REFUGEE RICE.

ON 19 JUNE IT WAS REPORTED THAT 150 THA PHO, THA OUEI AND HAI LUANG VILLAGERS WERE CONSCRIPTED BY THE PL TO WIDEN THE ROAD FROM THA PO TO BO HE. (TH3307). THA PHO IS THE SITE OF A PL DISPENSARY.

RIGHT BANK NAM KHAN RIVER

THE ENTIRE REPORTING PERIOD EXPERIENCED CONTINUING INSTABILITY IN THE SUBJECT AREA. SPORADIC CLASHES OCCURRED, AND NO POINT OF RECONCILIATION WAS ESTABLISHED BETWEEN FAR BV-16 AND THE PL, BOTH OF WHOM CLAIM CONTROL OVER THE RIGHT BANK TERRITORY. REFUGEES WHO RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE RIVER CONTINUE TO



REMAIN IN PLACE, AND ARE THE RECIPIENTS OF REFUGEE RICE. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BV-16 INVOLVEMENT IN THE AREA, CIVILIAN RELATIONS WITH THE PL ARE NORMAL, AND PL WERE FREQUENTLY REPORTED TO MOVE IN AND ABOUT LOCAL REFUGEE VILLAGES.

#### XIENG NGEUN AREA

AS IN MOST AREAS WHERE PL-RLG HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT, AN OPEN MARKET HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT PAKSA (TG1377) ON THE NAM KHAN RIVER UPSTREAM FROM XIENG NGEUN. VILLAGERS UNDER AREA P: CONTROL HAVE BEGUN TRADING GOODS AT PAK SA, AND IT IS ASSUMED THAT GOODS ARE BEING MOVED TO PAKSA FROM XIENG NGEUN. DURING THE LATTER PART OF MAY THE PL AGREED TO DISTRIBUTE 500 BAGS OF SALT TO VILLAGERS WHO HAD COME TO TRADE AT PAKSA FROM TASSENG PHOU KHOUN. AT THE PAKSA MARKET EITHER PL OR RLG KIP CAN BE EXCHANGED AT FACE VALUE. AFTER 15 JULY THE PL ESTABLISHED CHECKPOINTS ALONG THE NAM KHAN BETWEEN XIENG NGEUN AND PAKSA AT PAK BAC (TG1685), SAPHEUN (TG1483), AND PAK HOU EI EN (TG123800). THE CHECKPOINTS WERE ESTABLISHED TO REGULATE TRADE AND TRAFFIC BETWEEN XIENG NGEUN AND PAKSA.

#### LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY

PL CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN A LOW-KEY PRESENCE IN THE HILLS BORDERING THE LONG NAM KHAN VALLEY TO THE NORTH, AND WERE FREQUENTLY REPORTED TO STAY UP TO SEVERAL DAYS AT A TIME IN LNK REFUGEE VILLAGES.

#### MEKONG DOWNSTREAM

##### --PAK LUNG AREA

THE AREA ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE MEKONG DOWNSTREAM FROM PAK LUNG (SG9099) IS CONTESTED, PARTICULARLY THE INTERIOR SECTION AROUND THE BAN CHONG (RC1402) AND NAM LUM LOCALITIES. THE LOCAL DEFENCE UNIT WHICH OPERATES IN THAT AREA, BGR-132, WAS ENGAGED IN CLASHES WITH THE PL ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD, AND WAS SERVED NOTICE BY THE PL TO PULL BACK TO PAK LUNG. LIKEWISE, A FAR UNIT OPERATING IN THE BAN SALEUAN (SG8296) AREA WAS ADVISED BY THE PL THROUGH THE TASSENG OF SALEUAN TO PULL BACK.

BY JULY, ~~THE~~ PL PATROLS MOVED RELATIVELY FREELY IN THE CONTESTED AREAS, AND WERE REPORTED TO HAVE RECRUITED SOLDIERS AT BAN CHONG. RIVERINE VILLAGES, SUCH AS BAN SALEUAN, TRADE WITH THE PL AT THE PL CONTROLLED MARKET VILLAGE OF BANNA KHENG (RB0895).

FURTHER DOWNSTREAM AT BAN XONG TAI (QB9676) PL ISSUED AN ORDER ON 14 JULY FOR AREA NAIBANS AND TASSENGS TO ASSEMBLE FOR A TRAINING PROGRAM.



--PAK NEUN/PAK MONE

PL HAVE SOUGHT TO EXPAND THEIR INFLUENCE IN THE PAK NEUN (QB9730)-PAK MONE (RB0448) AREA. ON 25 MAY NAI KHAM BOTH, PL POLITICAL OFFICER AT PAK NEUN, CALLED TOGETHER SOME 280 AREA NAIBANS, TASSENGS AND VILLAGE ELDERS FOR A ONE WEEK TRAINING SESSION AT BOUAM PHOUK (RB015327). THE PL ANNOUNCED DURING THE SESSION THAT A NEW MUONG WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN THE AREA, MUONG SINKAY, WHICH WOULD ENCOMPASS ALL TERRITORY LYING BETWEEN PHA KOM (TG3049) AND MUONG NANE. THE CHAO MUONG WAS TO BE NAI KHAM BOTH. IT WAS FURTHER ANNOUNCED THAT A VIENTIANE SOUNKANG WAS TO BE ESTABLISHED NEAR THE HOUEI TANG MAI RIVER (RB117023), UNDER NAI SIPHAN, AND THAT A "CENTRAL TRANSPORTATION POINT" WOULD BE LOCATED ON THE MEKONG RIVER AT HOUEI PHI (QB973072). IN ADDITION TO THE HOUEI PHI TRANSPORTATION POINT, RIVER CHECKPOINTS WERE SET UP BY THE END OF AUGUST AT PAK NHAN (RA0077), PAK NEUN AND PAK MONE.

BY THE END OF JUNE IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE TASSENG OF PAK NEUN AND A NUMBER OF NAIBANS WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE MUONG SINKAI SETUP, AND AS A RESULT A NEW MUONG OFFICE WOULD NOT BE BUILT AT BOUAM PHOUK.

ON 14 AUGUST THE PL ORDERED PAK NEUN-PAK MONE AREA VILLAGERS TO REPORT THE NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK AND AMOUNT OF RICE ON HAND, AND MARKET CONTROLS WERE INSTITUTED WHEREBY RICE SALES WERE LIMITED TO ONE KALONG OF MILLED RICE AND FIVE KALONGS OF PADDY RICE PER FAMILY.

PL TROOPS TRAVEL FREELY UP THE MEKONG AS LEAST AS FAR AS PAK HAO (QB9368), AND SMALL GROUPS OF MEN ARE STATIONED ON A SEMI-PERMANENT BASIS IN VILLAGES BETWEEN THADEUA (QB9850) AND PAK HAO.

BETWEEN 12 AND 17 JUNE SOME 87 BOYS AND GIRLS TRANSITED PAK NEUN EN ROUTE TO MUONG SAI (VIA PAK HAO) FOR TRAINING. OF THIS NUMBER, IT WAS REPORTED THAT 50 BOYS AND GIRLS WERE RECRUITED IN THE NAM XONG/NAM TONE AREA (TF4288) NEAR VANG VIENG.

SUMMARY

BY AUGUST IT APPEARS AS THOUGH PL AND RLG/FAR HAD NORMALIZED RELATIONS TO THE EXTENT THAT TRADE AND, SUBSEQUENTLY, INTERCOURSE WAS RESUMED ON A CONTROLLED BASIS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. MARKET CENTERS ESTABLISHED IN SEVERAL LOCATIONS WERE SITUATED IN PL CONTROLLED AREAS TO WHICH RLG CIVILIANS WERE GRANTED ACCESS ON A LIMITED BASIS. EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT RECIPROCAL FREE ACCESS BY CIVILIANS WHO HAVE LONG LIVED UNDER PL CONTROL (e.g., NAM OU, NAM XEUANG, UPPER MEKONG AND UPPER NAM KHAN AREAS) WAS NOT GRANTED, ALTHOUGH THE PL APPEAR



TO HAVE MADE LITTLE ATTEMPT TO CURTAIL THE FREE MOVEMENT OF CIVILIANS LOCATED IN BORDERLINE AREAS (e.g. TERRITORY BORDERING ON THE MEKONG RIVER SOUTH OF LUANG PRABANG).

ADMINISTRATIVELY, IT APPEARS AS THOUGH THE PL HAVE SOUGHT TO CONSOLIDATE/LEGITIMIZE THEIR POSITION BOTH IN POPULATED AREAS WHICH PREVIOUSLY MERELY (LARGELY BY DEFAULT) LAY WITHIN THEIR SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, AND IN AREAS RECENTLY INHABITED BY REFUGEES WHO HAVE RETURNED HOME. TO THIS END, THE PL ESTABLISHED A NEW MUONG IN THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE RLG DISTRICT OF MUONG NANE, AND HAVE MADE EFFORTS TO REGISTER POPULATION, ESPECIALLY REFUGEES WHO HAVE RETURNED HOME EITHER ON A PERMANENT OR SEMI-PERMANENT BASIS, AS BEING BONIFIED RESIDENTS OF THE RESPECTIVE PL MUONGS (e.g., MUONG PAK OU (RLG) REFUGEES RETURNING TO THEIR HOMES IN MUONG PAK OU ARE BEING INTEGRATED BY THE PL INTO MUONG NGA (PL)).

FCB: 11-10-73

cc. AC/LP

10/20/73

To: Mr Ruffin OPA.  
Mr Benson OPA

From: G. Bayer AAC

Subject: Regional Development Plan

Antanado Whitehouse according to

ADFO Mr Pable, would like LP to develop  
a regional Development Plan, for LP meets the  
objective of income, economic development,  
and improving capability of the infrastructure  
(roads, bridges, etc. things).

We should make a plan that will  
focus on development of money, and assign  
priorities to each money.

Mr. Pable has been suggested by  
Jack Morgan as an area where production  
could be increased if the right  
stimulus is provided.

Mr Pable asked that we get  
started on this before Mr. Conant returns.  
So, I would appreciate your writing  
down your thoughts regarding this  
and sending them to me or Mr  
Conant when he returns.



# REFUGEE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A) RETURNEES - NAM XOUANG, PAK OU AREA KOUANG THONG  
4 HANAN  
LAK.

1) PROVIDE FRUIT TREE SEEDLINGS, COFFEE PLANTS, ETC. TO REFS. WHO FORMERLY PLANTED SUCH CROPS.

- 2) FISH PONDS — UTILIZE OVERFLOW FROM WATER SYSTEMS, AND TAP AVAILABLE STREAMS,
- 3) SMALL DIVERSION DAMS FOR IRRIGATION, POSSIBLY BAN PHIA, BAN HUONG, AND OTHER VILLAGES.
- 4) IMPROVE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY ? (B.G. H. YU)

5) SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION:

- 1) B. PHIA - 2  
2) B. LC - 2  
3) KHI LUANG - 2  
4) HOUEI YO - 2  
5) HOUEI SEONG - 2  
6) KOKUANG AREA
- } PLANNED  
} FELT NEED - NO  
FILE REQUEST YET  
NO SUFF. TEACHERS

B) REPATRIATES — LATHAN, LOWER NAM DU,  
PHA LANG MOU, NAM MING, PAK DAC.  
FIRST WAVE — (1973-74)

- 1) TRANSPORTATION, IF REQUIRED
- 2) THATCH IF HOUSES BURNED
- 3) <sup>TEMPORARY</sup> SCHOOLS — MEDICS — WATER SYSTEMS  
IF PL. AGREE (PROBABLE) AND RLG  
CONCURS.
- 4) AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT IN OLD VILLAGE  
AND GENERAL <sup>MISC</sup> ASSISTANCE IN GETTING  
RESETTLED.

C) PENDING REPATRIATION — H. PHAY, LATHON, KM 8, ETC.

- 1) AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION — SHORT TERM GAIN
  - a. ADO-LOAN TO MIDDLEMAN
  - b. MIDDLEMAN CONTRACTS TO BUY  
CROP FROM REFUGEES.
  - c. SELL TO ADO AND OTHER MARKET OUTLETS  
BASED ON WULF'S MARKET SURVEY
  - d. CASH INCOME TO BUY RICE, ETC, AS REQUIRED  
(EXPANSION TO INCLUDE "A" AND "B" ABOVE)
- 2) UPGRADE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY  
WITH GOAL MARKETING.

D) GENERAL

- 1) CLOSER COORDINATION WITH ALL RLG  
MINISTRIES — DIVISIONS, ESP. EDU, AGR, UCT, ICE,  
FISHERIES — IN FORMULATING AND CARRYING  
OUT DEVEL. PLAN.
- 2) SINCE MANY LOCAL CHAO MUONGS OLD, DECORING  
AND INEFFECTIVE, AND SINCE UCRST COM HAVE NO  
DEPUTY, ASSIGN YOUNG, ENERGETIC DEPUTY TO  
DO LEG-ATTAISON WORK.

3) MORE  
VISIBLE/ACCESSIBLE  
RLG COUNT  
GENERALLY



- 3) DEVELOP STRONG USAID LOCAL STAFF AND FIRE DEADWOOD.
- 4) MORE INTEREST/INPUT FROM USAID TECH. DIVISIONS.

- E) RELOCATION PERM. SETTLERS (PHUO DAM INCO ETC TO SYBY SYBY FCS)
- 1) IDENTIFY
  - 2) FIND SITE (THONG KHANG, ETC)
  - 3) ROADS - COMMUNICATIONS
  - 4) SCHOOLS - ETC
  - 5) AGRICULTURE ASSIST.

F) TREND TO DEVEL.

- 1) WEAN REFS AWAY FROM IDEA FOOD SUPPORT TO CONCEPT SELF-RELIANCE BY PLUGGING INTO LOCAL ECONOMY.

CU OCT 1973

F. BENSON

formation of a government of national union  
with the ~~possibility of a national union~~ imminent,  
The question uppermost in refugees' minds concerns the possibility of returning home to their original villages. That refugees who wanted to do so could return home was duly conveyed to them by local chao muengs as per a communique from the Prime Minister dated 8 September. However, most refugees were unable to interpret the meaning of the communique, and some misunderstood it as being an order to return home.

To date only <sup>12</sup> families <sup>67</sup> persons, Lao refugees from Ban Houei Sam, Tasseng, Pakxeng, Muang Pakxeng, have returned home from Pak Morit ( ) after duly informing the RLG.

In order to <sup>concerning repatriation</sup> response to questions posed by refugees <sup>concerning repatriation</sup> during a trip to the Pak Ou-Pakxeng areas on 4-5 October, and to Houei Phay on 8 October, the Chao Khoueng of Luang Prabang sought to clarify major points in the problem of repatriation. The immediate



problems which the situation in terms of the provisions of the 14 September Protocol agreement and the 21 February ceasefire agreement. ~~The questions~~

The questions most frequently asked by refugees ~~fell into two categories; ~~namely~~~~ reflected their concern in ~~the~~ three broad areas: 1) The probable permanency of the peace, ~~and~~ 2) freedom of movement ~~and~~ after they return, and 3) ~~future~~ <sup>future</sup> Government support ~~after~~.

In response to the <sup>refugees'</sup> first area of interest, the Chao Khouang ventured that, ~~it~~ given the ~~previous~~ ~~and~~ nature of the agreement and the position of the world's superpowers vis-a-vis each other and the Indochina problem, the likelihood of a stable peace is greater now than it ever has been, and that the chances ~~for success were~~ ~~in favor of the Lao.~~ <sup>However,</sup> ~~nevertheless,~~ <sup>however,</sup> the Chao Khouang ~~he~~ hastened to point out, <sup>that</sup> the effects of twenty years of war and division cannot be mended overnight.

The important factor he states ~~is~~  
that gives the unique characteristics  
of the Lao,

Regarding areas of interest #2 and 3,  
The Chao Khoueng ~~stated~~ based  
his <sup>comment</sup> ~~comments~~ on the provisions  
contained in the <sup>protocol</sup> agreement, and  
reserved



TO: MR LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP  
FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP *Benson*  
SUBJ: MONTHLY REPORT--OCTOBER 1973

7 NOVEMBER 1973

1) ON 4-5 OCTOBER THE CHAO KHOUENG, SOCIAL WELFARE, ORA, ETC., VISITED ALL REFUGEES IN THE PAK OU AND PAK XEUANG AREAS TO DISCUSS THE REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES WISHING TO RETURN HOME AND THE FUTURE OF THE REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. THE CHAO KHOUENG POINTED OUT THAT ALL REFUGEES ARE FREE TO RETURN HOME AT ANY TIME (IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE 21 FEBRUARY CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT AND A STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER DATED 8 SEPTEMBER), BUT ADVISED THAT REFUGEES RETURNING TO PATHET LAO-CONTROLLED AREAS WOULD BE UNDER THE COMPLETE JURISDICTION OF THE PATHET LAO. MANY REFUGEES EXPRESSED RELUCTANCE TO RETURN HOME ON A PERMANENT BASIS (a) IF FREE MOVEMENT BETWEEN PL AND RLG ZONES IS NOT GUARANTEED BY THE PL, AND (b) IF RLG OFFICIALS, TEACHERS, ETC. CANNOT ACCOMPANY THEM. NEVERTHELESS, REFUGEES FROM VILLAGES SITUATED IN PL AREAS NEAR PAK OU FREQUENTLY TRAVEL BACK AND FORTH TO THEIR OLD VILLAGES TO FISH AND TO CLEAR VILLAGE SITES.

REGARDING CONTINUED ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES, THE CHAO KHOUENG STATED THAT WITH THE END OF THE WAR THERE COULD BE NO MORE REFUGEES AND, THEREFORE, THE CONTINUATION OF A MASSIVE FOOD SUPPORT PROGRAM IS UNJUSTIFIABLE (AND UNLIKELY). RATHER, THE RLG WOULD MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO ASSIST REFUGEES IN OTHER AREAS, SUCH AS AGRICULTURE, SO THAT ANY RICE DEFICITS THIS YEAR COULD BE MADE UP BY RICE PURCHASES USING INCOME FROM CASH CROPS.

2) A NUMBER OF REFUGEES, PARTICULARLY LAO THEUNG FROM PHONGSALI AND LUANG PRABANG PROVINCES, HAVE, DURING THE COURSE OF THE PAST SIX MONTHS, EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN RELOCATING THEMSELVES IN MORE SPACIOUS LAND AREAS. MANY OF THESE REFUGEES ARE NOW LOCATED IN VILLAGES, SUCH AS HOUET PHAY AND KM-8, WHERE LIMITED LAND AREAS ARE BECOMING EVEN MORE CONSTRICTED AS THE RESULT OF ENCROACHMENT BY OTHER LANDOWNERS. WHILE RELOCATION SEEMED TO BE THE ONLY SOLUTION TO THEIR LAND PROBLEMS, MANY OF THE REFUGEES ARE NOW BAULKING AT THE PROSPECT OF RELOCATION IN VIEW OF WHAT MANY OF THEM BELIEVE TO BE INCREASINGLY BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR RETURNING HOME. WHILE RETURNING HOME IS THE BEST OF ALL POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THEIR PROBLEM, IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT THE REFUGEES WOULD REVIEW THEIR SITUATION IF, IN SEVERAL MONTHS TIME, THEY ARE UNABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR OLD VILLAGES. POSSIBLE RELOCATION AREAS ARE THONG KHANG, HOUET YO, AND PAK PA.

3) ORA/LP IS INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITY OF PROMOTING CASH CROP PRODUCTION IN SELECTED REFUGEE AREAS BY SEEKING ADO ASSISTANCE IN



SETTING UP BUSINESSMEN WHO WOULD (AT THEIR OWN RISK) CONTRACT WITH REFUGEES TO BUY CROPS AT MARKET PRICES. WHILE ADO IS A SURE MARKET FOR CERTAIN GRAIN CROPS, OTHER POTENTIAL MARKETS FOR CERTAIN CROPS EXIST IN VIENTIANE, AS WELL AS IN LUANG PRABANG.

REFUGEE POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION MIGHT INCREASE IF LOCAL TRAINING PROGRAMS WERE HELD BY THE VETERINARY SERVICE TO ASSIST REFUGEES IN IDENTIFYING AND TREATING COMMON ANIMAL DISEASES. THE ASSISTANCE OF USAID/AGR HAS BEEN SOLICITED IN THIS MATTER.

4) BOB WULFF'S SURVEY TEAM, WHICH WAS PULLED FROM THE LP SURVEY PROJECT TO DO A PRIORITY JOB IN XIENG KHOUANG IN SEPT., IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO LUANG PRABANG SOON. COMPLETED THUS FAR ARE THE MARKET SURVEY AND SURVEYS OF 22 VILLAGES. AT LEAST TWO MONTH'S WORK REMAINS. TIMELY COMPLETION OF THE SURVEY WOULD PROVIDE A MUCH NEEDED ECONOMIC PROFILE OF REFUGEE VILLAGES, AND HOPEFULLY PROVIDE USEFUL INFORMATION FOR PROGRAMMING PURPOSES (#3 ABOVE).

5) ATTEMPTS TO MONITOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF REFUGEE SCHOOL MATERIALS BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. ALTHOUGH REQUESTS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED, THE PSI HAS STILL NOT SUBMITTED AN UPDATED LIST OF REFUGEE SCHOOLS, STUDENT NUMBERS, SUPPLY QUOTAS PER STUDENT, AND DETAILED LISTS OF SUPPLY ISSUES. IT HAS THEREFORE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT ADDITIONAL SCHOOL MATERIALS ARE NEEDED IN ORDER TO ASSURE ADEQUATE SUPPLYING OF REFUGEE STUDENTS.

WHEN AVAILABLE, MSW HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTING WORLD VISION VITAMINS TO REFUGEE SCHOOLS ON A MONTHLY BASIS.

6) CONFLICTING INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS IN THE NAM XOUANG AREA, AND A POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDING REGARDING RESOURCE AVAILABILITY WHICH AROSE DURING PLANNING SESSIONS WITH THE RLG (ORA WAS NOT INCLUDED), POINTS OUT THE NEED FOR BETTER COORDINATION BETWEEN CDS AND ORA IN PLANNING REFUGEE PROJECTS.

7) DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN HELD WITH THE PHONGSALY COMMITTEE REGARDING SUPPORT FOR THE PHONGSALY ORPHANAGE. ORA EMPHASIZED TO THE COMMITTEE, HEADED BY THE CHAO KHOUENG, THAT ANY TEMPORARY USAID ASSISTANCE WOULD BE CONTINGENT UPON THE COMMITTEE FINDING PERMANENT SOURCES OF SUPPORT. WORLD VISION AND THE LUANG PRABANG PROTESTANT CHURCH



HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SUPPORTING THE PROJECT, AND INTEND TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO THE COMMITTEE. WORLD VISION SUPPORT WOULD NEGATE THE NEED FOR USAID INPUT. THERE ARE NOW 23 CHILDREN (LAO THEUNG) AT THE COMBINATION ORPHANAGE-STUDENT HOSTEL.

8) AP-LP-4-003 HOUSING, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT: THATCH ROOFING WAS PROVIDED IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER TO REFUGEES WHO RETURNED TO BATTLE DAMAGED VILLAGES--BAN LE (25 FAMILIES), KHI LUANG (30 FAMILIES), XANG HAI (40 FAMILIES) AND PAK OU (38 FAMILIES). THE PROJECT IS COMPLETED.

9) AP-LP-4-013 REFUGEE INSECTICIDE PROGRAM: REFUGEE PADDY RICE HAS BEEN SPRAYED IN THE PAK OU AND KOK VANE AREAS. THE PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED IN EARLY NOVEMBER.

10) VEGETABLE SEEDS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO REFUGEES IN OCTOBER. THE DISTRIBUTION WILL BE COMPLETED IN NOVEMBER. RLQ/AGR WILL DISTRIBUTE VEGETABLE SEEDS TO REFUGEE SCHOOLS IN NOVEMBER.

11) 37,321 REFUGEES WERE NO LONGER CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD SUPPORT FOLLOWING HARVEST IN OCTOBER AND WERE DULY SUBTRACTED FROM FOOD SUPPORT ROLLS EFFECTIVE 1 NOVEMBER.

cc. AD/RA

TO: MR LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

13 NOVEMBER 1973

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: REFUGEE AGRICULTURE

THE CHAO KHOUENG'S DECLARATION THAT REFUGEES CAN NO LONGER DEPEND UPON RICE HANDOUTS BUT MUST RATHER BEGIN TO SEEK ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF ATTAINING SELF-SUFFICIENCY (IN THE EVENT OF A POOR RICE CROP) ONCE AGAIN POINTS OUT THE NEED FOR ACTION IN THE FIELD OF REFUGEE AGRICULTURE.

REFUGEES IN NEED OF AGRICULTURE ASSISTANCE CAN BE DEFINED IN TERMS OF TWO CATEGORIES:

- 1) REFUGEES WHO HAVE EITHER RETURNED TO THEIR NATIVE VILLAGES OR WHO PLAN TO RESETTLE PERMANENTLY IN THE LUANG PRABANG AREA.
- 2) REFUGEES WHO PLAN TO RETURN TO THEIR NATIVE VILLAGES.

MANY OF THE RETURNEES IN CATEGORY #1 HAVE LONG DEPENDED UPON CASH CROPS TO PROVIDE THEM WITH A MAJOR PORTION OF THEIR INCOME. AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION COULD PROBABLY BE INCREASED IN THESE AREAS IF BETTER PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES WERE INTRODUCED. THIS INCLUDES ASSISTANCE IN SEEKING TO ESTABLISH A MORE EFFICIENT MARKETING SYSTEM.

WHILE MOST OF THE VILLAGES IN THIS CATEGORY HAVE SUFFICIENT MEANS AVAILABLE TO PROCURE NECESSARY SEEDLINGS IN THE EVENT THAT THEY WANT TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF SPECIFIC CROPS, SUCH AS COFFEE, SOME OF THE VILLAGES HARDEST HIT BY THE WAR MAY REQUIRE OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE IN REPLACING DESTROYED FRUIT TREES, ETC. IN THE CASE OF THONG KHANG, AN AREA OF PROBABLE PERMANENT REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT WHICH, ALTHOUGH AGRICULTURALLY UNDEVELOPED, MAY POSSESS CONSIDERABLE POTENTIAL, TOBACCO, FRUIT TREES AND OTHER LONG AND SHORT TERM CROPS MIGHT BE INTRODUCED. THONG KHANG WOULD ALSO BE AN IDEAL LOCATION TO BEGIN A REFORESTATION PROJECT. SUCCESSFUL MARKETING OF CROPS PRODUCED IN THE THONG KHANG AREA DEPENDS, TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, UPON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SHORT ACCESS TRAIL LEADING FROM THE XIENG NGEUN-MUONG NANE ROAD.

PADDY RICE PRODUCTION IN SEVERAL CATEGORY #1 VILLAGES COULD POSSIBLY BE INCREASED OR INTRODUCED IF SMALL DIVERSION DAM IRRIGATION SYSTEMS COULD FEASIBLY BE CONSTRUCTED.

GENERALLY SPEAKING, ALL REFUGEES NOT INCLUDED IN CATEGORY #1 FALL INTO CATEGORY #2. A PERCENTAGE OF REFUGEES IN CATEGORY #2 ARE SITUATED ON MARGINAL LAND AREAS, AND ARE CONSEQUENTLY UNABLE TO ATTAIN COMPLETE SELF SUFFICIENCY IN RICE. HOWEVER, A NUMBER OF THESE VILLAGES LIE ADJACENT TO STREAMS, OR ARE IN OTHER WAYS SITUATED IN AN ENVIRONMENT



SUITABLE TO THE PRODUCTION OF CASH CROPS. SINCE ALL OF THE REFUGEES IN THESE AREAS DESIRE TO RETURN TO THEIR NATIVE VILLAGES, A LONG TERM SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEM IS NOT PRACTICAL. RATHER, CROPS WHICH OFFER THE POSSIBILITY OF SHORT-TERM PRODUCTIVITY SHOULD BE INTRODUCED ON A SELECTIVE BASIS.

THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN ANY ENDEAVOR INVOLVING PRODUCTION ON EITHER A LONG TERM OR SHORT TERM BASIS CENTERS ON MARKETABILITY. PRELIMINARY SURVEYS, SUCH AS THE ONE CONDUCTED BY LES BEAN IN 1972 AND, TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, THE ONE PREPARED BY BOB WULFF'S TEAM IN 1973, POINT OUT CERTAIN AREAS OF MARKET DEMAND.

THE GREATEST STIMULUS TO INCREASED PRODUCTION IS THE PROMISE OF ECONOMIC GAIN. MUCH OF THE ECONOMIC GAIN WHICH COULD BE REALIZED BY LOCAL FARMERS IS PROBABLY LOST DUE TO INEFFICIENT MARKETING PRACTICES. PERHAPS A LOGICAL SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM WOULD BE THE INTRODUCTION OF MIDDLEMEN WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO CONTRACT WITH REFUGEES TO PURCHASE CROPS AT CONTROLLED MARKET PRICES.

ATTENTION SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON THE PROBLEM OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY IN REFUGEE AREAS. AS BOB WULFF'S SURVEY POINTS OUT, THE MORTALITY RATE OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY IN REFUGEE VILLAGES IS UNUSUALLY HIGH. PERHAPS ONE OF THE MAJOR REASONS FOR THIS IS THE INABILITY OF REFUGEES TO IDENTIFY AND TREAT COMMON DISEASES. A TRAINING PROGRAM CONDUCTED BY THE RLG VET SERVICE WOULD HELP TO ALLEVIATE THIS PROBLEM. FIELD WORK BY THE VET SERVICE IN ASSISTING REFUGEES IMPROVE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY TECHNIQUES MIGHT PROMOTE INCREASED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION, ESPECIALLY IN REFUGEE VILLAGES, SUCH AS THONG KHANG, WHICH HAVE HAD SOME SUCCESS IN RAISING AND MARKETING LIVESTOCK, PARTICULARLY HOGS.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF FISH PONDS IN ALL REFUGEE AREAS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED, ESPECIALLY INsofar AS PONDS WOULD PROVIDE A SOURCE OF PROTEIN FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION.

WHILE THE REFUGEE AGRICULTURE/LIVESTOCK PROBLEM HAS BEEN STATED ABOVE IN GENERAL TERMS, THE QUESTION WHICH I WOULD LIKE TO RAISE IN THIS MEMORANDUM CONCERN THE FEASIBILITY, PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION ASPECTS OF A PROGRAM WHICH WOULD LEAD TO CONCRETE ACTION IN SEEKING TO ACT UPON THE PROBLEMS OUTLINED ABOVE:

- 1) IS THE REFUGEE AGRICULTURE PROBLEM AN INSURMOUNTABLE ONE, OR IS THERE ROOM FOR POSITIVE ACTION?
- 2) IF JUDGED FEASIBLE, WHAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO ASSURE THAT A BALANCED PROGRAM WITH ATTAINABLE GOALS IS DESIGNED?



- 3) TO WHAT EXTENT IS USAID AND RLG AGR PREPARED TO DIRECT AND MANAGE THE PROGRAM SHOULD IT BE IMPLEMENTED?
- 4) HOW CAN THE LOCAL RLG AND USAID STAFF BETTER BE UTILIZED TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY COULD IMPLEMENT THE PROJECT ON A DAY TO DAY BASIS?

IN PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING A REFUGEE AGRICULTURE/LIVESTOCK PROGRAM ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARKETING SURVEYS AND OTHER RELEVANT DATUM, SUCH AS SOIL SURVEYS AND AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH ANALYSES, WHICH HAVE BEEN COLLECTED AND COMPILED OVER THE YEARS. INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THESE REPORTS, PLUS OTHER INFORMATION WHICH NEEDS TO BE GATHERED, ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA OF MARKETING, MAY OFFER DIRECTION AND PROVIDE GUIDELINES IN THE INITIAL PLANNING STAGES. THE SCOPE OF THE PROGRAM SHOULD BE CLEARLY DEFINED, AND FIELD SURVEYS CARRIED OUT TO DETERMINE THE AGRICULTURE POTENTIAL AND LOCAL INTEREST WHICH EXISTS IN THE SELECTED VILLAGES. PARTICULAR EFFORT SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO FINDING MIDDLEMEN INTERESTED IN PURCHASING CERTAIN CROPS FROM REFUGEES, THUS ADDING INCENTIVE TO INCREASED PRODUCTION. THE RLG SHOULD FIRMLY COMMIT ITSELF TO THE REFUGEE PROGRAM, AND SHOULD BEAR CONSIDERABLE RESPONSIBILITY IN PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM.

TIMELY ACTION IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS TO THE REFUGEE AGRICULTURE/LIVESTOCK PROBLEM, ESPECIALLY IN THE CASE OF SHORT TERM PROJECTS GIVEN THE SEASONAL NATURE OF MOST POTENTIAL CASH CROPS.

fcv



By: F. Benson

Subj: LP Refugee Activity Following the 14 September 1973 Protocol

Date: 15 November 1973

On 2 September 2011 this report was compiled based on personal notes written on 15 November 1973.

*"The Agreement of 21 February 1973 on the restoration of peace and national concord in Laos [was] formally signed in Vientiane by the Government Office in Vientiane and the Lao Patriotic Forces Delegation "Pathet Lao", this Agreement constitutes a sum repetition of a part of the Zurich Agreement of June 22, 1961, on the other agreements between the Lao Patriotic Front and the Royal Lao Government in 1956-57, and 5-point proposal advanced by March 6, 1970 Lao Patriotic Front.*

*The Agreement of February 21 is supplemented by a second agreement called Memorandum of Agreement of 21 February 1973. If the Agreement of 21 February 1973 provides for the training within 30 days of the Provisional Government of National Unity and National Policy Advisory Council, the Protocol of September 14, defines the procedure for implementing the various clauses contained therein." (POLITICAL LAOS since the Vientiane Agreement of 1973 on the restoration of peace and national harmony, by Sanithvong, September 14, 2010).*

The signing of the Protocol Agreement on 14 September 1973 gave new spark to refugees' hopes that a permanent peace was finally at hand and that prospects for returning home in the foreseeable future seeming promising. This was guarded optimism, however, in spite of the fact that the prospects for repatriation was, and continues to be, uppermost in the minds of most refugees.

There has been a marked increase in communications between refugees and refugee leaders, on the one hand, and individuals on the PL side. Mail, being delivered in bundles via a central censoring point at Nam Bac, has begun to be sent through Pak Ou in quantity by relatives and friends living on both sides. Refugee leaders have made contact at Pak Ou with representatives of the other side. In PL controlled areas of Muong Xieng Ngeun, Tasseng Pak Bak, Tasseng Pak Sa and Tasseng Dane Khoua, RLG-appointed tassengs, all of whom are refugees (although all are known to be sympathetic to the PL cause) are actively negotiating refugee repatriation with the PL. While travel on the Nam Khan river, which passes through each of the three tassengs, was restricted by the PL between 25 September and 5 October, free travel is now permitted once again as far upstream from Xieng Ngeun as Pak Sa. The RLG tasseng of Dan Khoua has been permitted to move back and forth freely above Pak Sa arranging reunions for relatives at Pak Sa.

The garrisoning of a PL security force in LP has provided refugees with an opportunity to receive first-hand information about relatives and living conditions on the other side from soldiers and cadre native to the respective areas.

All of the high hopes and all of the inquiries and contacts back and forth have materialized only insofar as some 246(?) refugees (the official RLG number) have returned home, primarily to villages along the Mekong upstream from Pak Ou, and to villages along the Nam Xouang river in the Pak Seng area. Several families have reportedly ventured as far as Muong Sai and Nam Bac. Some 181 people returned home in October. To date (15 November) 121 refugees have moved back to their native villages during

November. Since May, at least 252 refugees returned to villages along the Mekong between Pak Ou and Lat Khammoun. Some refugees have returned to the PL controlled Bo He area; others have returned to villages along the contested (currently PL-occupied) right bank of the Nam Khan river between Xieng Ngeun and Xieng Lom.

The reason why more refugees haven't returned home is due to the element of uncertainty with respect to the conditions which awaits them. As these conditions—freedom of movement, availability of government services and assistance, the possibility of reprisals, etc.—are more clearly spelled out and defined by the PL it can be expected that the numbers of returnees will increase accordingly.

Other factors impinge on the decision as to whether or not to return home at all. Generally speaking, refugees who have relatives on the other side seem more inclined to return home. In most cases villagers in zones of heavy fighting were fragmented, with one group fleeing to the RLG side and the other group remaining in place.

In cases where refugees possessed paddy land, the question arises as to whether or not they can reclaim it given the PL's land redistribution policy. For this reason, it is likely that refugees who formerly practiced only upland rice cultivation (predominantly ethnic minorities) will be more inclined to return home before lowland cultivators given the fact that most of these refugees are presently situated on extremely unproductive land, that there is a relative abundance of upland fields in their area from which they came, and that the mobile nature of slash and burn cultivation precludes land expropriation and redistribution.

A related factor is the relative wealth of refugees. Economically self-sufficient refugees, especially those who own land, are less inclined to return home than poor refugees. The expectation of reprisals may limit the return of individuals who, for one reason or another, may be considered dangerous in the eyes of the PL.



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TO: MR LOUIS CONNICK, AC/LP

27 NOVEMBER 1973

FROM: F.C. BENSON, ORA/LP

SUBJ: NOVEMBER SITREP

TO DATE, GROUPS OF REFUGEES HAVE RETURNED TO NATIVE VILLAGES WHICH ARE SITUATED GENERALLY IN THREE AREAS UNDER GLHX CONTROL--VILLAGES ALONG THE MEKONG ABOVE PAK OU AS FAR AS BAN BO (QC7600), VILLAGES NEAR THE NAM XUANG RIVER IN THE VICINITY OF PAK XENG (TH5733), AND VILLAGES IN THE NAM BAK VALLEY. NAM BAK REFUGEES, WHO LEFT LUANG PRABANG ON 2 NOVEMBER, WERE HELD BY THE PL AT BAN HAT KHO (TH1625), THE FIRST CHECKPOINT (PL) ON THE NAM OU RIVER UPSTREAM FROM PAK OU, FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS BEFORE BEING ESCORTED TO BAN KHOK (TH2237) WHERE THEY ARE PRESENTLY BEING HELD FOR INTERROGATION AND TRAINING. NO DIFFICULTIES ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ENCOUNTERED BY REFUGEES RETURNING TO OTHER AREAS. REFUGEES RETURNING TO THE PAKSENG AREA WERE TRANSPORTED FROM BAN HOUA KENG (TH2220) TO THEIR NATIVE VILLAGES ON PL BOATS. RELATIVELY FREE MOVEMENT BACK AND FORTH TO LP HAS BEEN GRANTED REFUGEES UPSTREAM FROM PAK OU (ON THE MEKONG), ALTHOUGH THE PL SPECIFICALLY PROHIBIT FREE MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES BACK TO LP ONCE THEY HAVE RETURNED HOME.

ALL REFUGEES WHO RETURN HOME MUST SIGN A PASS PROVIDED BY THE RESPECTIVE CHAO MUONGS GUARANTEEING ACCESS TO PL AREAS. THE PL WILL NOT ACCEPT (OFFICIALLY) PEOPLE WHO DO NOT PRESENT A PASS. A COMPLETE LIST OF REFUGEES WHO HAVE RETURNED HOME IS ATTACHED.

REFUGEES WHO HAVE RETURNED, OR HAVE A DESIRE TO RETURN, ARE, BY AND LARGE, REFUGEES WHO DO NOT POSSESS THE MEANS TO ATTAIN SELF SUFFICIENCY IN LUANG PRABANG. POLITICAL MOTIVATION DOES NOT SEEM TO BE A FACTOR IN MOST CASES IN MAKING THE DECISION TO RETURN HOME. ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS ARE PROBABLY THE PRIMARY MOTIVATING FACTOR. REFUGEES WHO PREVIOUSLY OWNED PADDY FIELDS HAVE RECEIVED ASSURANCES THAT THE PADDY WILL BE RETURNED TO THEM. ABANDONED PADDY HAS BEEN FARMED ON A COMMUNAL BASIS IN MOST AREAS AND HARVESTED RICE HAS BEEN STORED IN COMMUNAL WAREHOUSES. IN ADDITION TO RECEIVING LAND RIGHTFULLY OWNED BY RETURNING REFUGEES, IT IS LIKELY THAT DESTITUTE REFUGEES WILL RECEIVE A RICE RATION ISSUED FROM COMMUNAL WAREHOUSES. REFUGEES WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE LAO ARMY OR IN OTHER WAYS COOPERATED WITH THE RLG CAUSE ARE FEARFUL THAT THEIR "MISDEEDS" WILL BE REVENGED IF THEY RETURN HOME AT THIS POINT (ALTHOUGH ALL OF THEM LOOK FORWARD TO THE DAY WHEN THEY CAN RETURN HOME)--MANY REFUGEES, MOSTLY DEPENDENT FAMILIES, WHO RETURNED HOME AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE GENEVA ACCORDS IN 1962, WERE BRUTALLY TREATED BY THE PL.

DURING THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS GROUPS OF VILLAGERS (PL AGENTS) HAVE COME TO LP VIA PAKBENG FROM MUONG SAI AND MUONG HOUN. THESE PEOPLE HAVE GENERALLY ADVISED THEIR RELATIVES AGAINST RETURNING HOME AT THIS TIME BECAUSE THEY WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO COME BACK TO LP ONCE THEY RETURN. RATHER, THEY RECOMMEND WAITING UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT IS FORMED AND THE SITUATION STABILIZES. THE EXCHANGE OF PERSONAL LETTERS CONTINUES.

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GENERALLY, MOST LUANG PRABANG AND PHONGSALI REFUGEES, INCLUDING THOSE WHO ARE LIVING IN VIENTIANE, DESIRE TO RETURN TO THEIR NATIVE VILLAGES. HOWEVER, CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN DECIDING WHEN TO RETURN HOME ARE NUMEROUS. THE FIRST GROUP TO GO WILL BE THOSE WHO ARE POOR AND WHO HAVE NOT WRONGED THE PL. THE LAST GROUP TO GO WILL BE LANDOWNERS AND SPIES. THE INITIATIVE TO RETURN HOME HAS BEEN TAKEN BY THE REFUGEES THEMSELVES, AND THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF AN ORGANIZED PL EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE REPATRIATION.

FCB

cc. AD/RA

CONFIDENTIAL



1973

Luang Prabang

REPATRIATED REFUGEES

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>MUONG</u>	<u>FAM</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>DATE OF REPAT.</u>	<u>FROM</u>
1. KENG KHENE	PAK OU		43	APRIL	XIENG MENE
2. KHOC PHOU	"	4	25	MAY	MUONG KHAM
3. NGOI HAI	"	14	82	MAY	"
4. LATKHAMOUN	"	6	27	JUNE	XIENG MENE
KENG KHENE	"	10	75	OCT	"
5. BAN THIO	MG SAI	1	5	OCT 9	SOUAN OY
6. PAKSENG N.	PAKXENG	1	3	OCT 8	PAK XOUANG
7. PAKSENG T.	"	1	6	OCT 9	PAK MOUT
8. HAT KHENE	"	1	8	OCT 9	"
9. HOUEI YEN	"	8	45	OCT 9	"
10. HATTEU	PAK OU	8	38	OCT 23	THINE KEO
11. BAN BO	"	3	10	OCT 23	"
12. NAM NGA	XUNE	1	5	NOV 1	"
KHOC PHOU	PAK OU	2	11	OCT 11	KHONE KENNE
BAN BO	"	1	4	OCT 23	HOUEI KO
13. HOUEI KHA YAI	"	1	4	OCT 10	"
14. THA OUEI	SOPVI	2	9	OCT 23	HOUA NA KANG
15. HAT SOA	XUNE	1	2	OCT 26	NA PHO
16. BAN DONE	NAM BAK	1	7	NOV 12	SAYLOM
17. BAN FA	"	1	4	NOV 2	PHONESAAT
18. BAN NAM LA	"	1	1	NOV 2	DANE NOI
19. MUONG BOM	"	1	2	NOV 2	SAYLOM
20. SOPTIEK	PAKXENG	1	4	NOV 11	PAK MOUT
SOP TEEK	"	1	5	NOV 12	"
"	"	1	2	NOV 2	"
"	"	3	14	OCT 23	"
HAT KHENE	"	1	3	NOV 11	"
"	"	1	3	OCT 25	"
PAKSENG TAI	"	3	14	NOV 2	PHABAT TAI
"	"	3	13	OCT 25	PAK MOUT
21. HAT KEO	"	1	4	OCT 25	PHONESAAT
SOP TIEK	"	1	1	OCT 12	PAK MOUT
"	"	3	15	OCT 22	"
22. THAVANE	"	1	1	OCT 17	"
HAT KEO	"	1	6	OCT 17	"
PAKXENG NEUA	"	1	3	OCT 8	PAK XEUANG
HOUEI YEN	"	1	7	OCT 8	PAK MOUT
"	"	7	35	OCT 9	"
PAKXENG TAI	"	1	6	OCT 9	"
HAT KHENE	"	1	8	OCT 9	PAK MOUT
23. SAPHEUN	XIENG NGUEN	8	46	SEPT	DONE MO
24. PAKSA	"	6	35	SEPT	"
25. LONG LANH	SOPVI	22	82	?	PAK PA
26. HOUEI LEUK	"	5	22	?	"
27. HOUA KENG	PAKXENG	13	74	NOV 17	PHONE SAUANG

27 villages

142

155

715

819

Figs. for m.g. PAK OU NOT  
ACCURATE, GIVEN FREEDOM OF  
MOVEMENT, TOTALS DIFFICULT TO  
PIN DOWN.

Date: August 26, 2011

By: Fritz Benson

Subject: Impact of the Conflict in Laos on the Villagers in Luang Province & Phong Saly Provinces

Over the years a considerable amount of material has been written about the conflict in Laos. However, the scope of these writings rarely extends beyond describing and analyzing the political and military events which gave birth to and fostered the war in Laos.

Very little attention has been given to the manifestations of events which have transpired during the course of the past quarter century in terms of the rural population of Laos. This is unfortunate insofar as the struggle was persecuted in their name. Indeed, the effects of the war on the population deserve special attention because without their presence the war in Laos could not have been sustained. At the same time, it was the rural population which bore the harsh consequences of the war.

The purpose of this paper is to offer a series of perspectives on the position of the civilian population in Luang Prabang Province vis-à-vis the factions at war in Laos based on interviews of refugees. This is not meant to be a historical account of the war and many of the dates and circumstances of military engagements described in the following pages cannot be taken as authoritative. The material contained below is based on the experiences of refugees who, after living for many years in areas of strife, for one reason or another made the decision to leave their homes in the often futile search for peace and normality in a war-torn land.

## **1950s**

### **Phong Saly Province**

Between 1950 and 1953 all was quiet in Phong Saly Province. However, in 1953 the North Vietnamese came and villages were politically reorganized. Muong Xiang Chang was Panacngan Organization 9more production) Unity. **(Ban Yang territory – Lao Theung)**

Another village reported no problems between 1953 and 1962. **(Ban Chomvanh – Lao Theung)**

### **Muong Xune**

As the enemy approached Luang Prabang in 1953 the vice chao muong named Maha Chansouk told the people to leave at 4 pm by boat (March 1953). After several days in Luang Prabang they moved on to Muong Nane. In 1954 they went back to Muong Xune as the Indochina War ended. In 1959 the Avion de Chasse bombed Ban Paknga and all houses burned. The enemy attacked Ban Boung and Man Namnua (1 lieutenant was killed). At this time the chao muong of Muong Ngoi, Phia Phoui, told people to leave in fact of the enemy. **(Ban Muong Xune – Lao, Lao Theung – Hmong)**

In 1952 and 1953 Viet Minh and the French fought in the area. Three Avion de Chasse bombed four villages, Ban Huana, Ban Xiengda, Ban Lumtay, and Ban Lum Neua. At this point villagers moved to the



upland rice fields and following harvest moved to Nam Nga where they stayed for one year. At this point the villagers split up, one part returning to the old village and the other two groups going to Ban Simonkhoun (TH-2053). Between 1954 and 1959 there were no problems in the area. **(Ban Simonkhoun – Lao)**

Between 1950 and 1958 there was no trouble in the area of Nam Nga. Before these people lived in Ban Lumti and Ban Lum Neua. **(Simonkhoun, Tasseng Nam Nga)**

Between 1959 and 1965 the villagers of Ban Lat En were under enemy control.

### **Muong Houn**

Between 1956 and 1959 there was no trouble in the area. In 1959 one enemy company attacked and Lt. Noutone and his soldiers were forced to retreat. Four houses were burned. The enemy ran into the village and ordered villagers not to leave. After five days a meeting was followed by Lamvong. During the next five months the enemy called for increased food production. In 1960 Lt. Noutone retook Muong Houn. **(Muong Houn)**

In 1950 one company of French troops at Muong Houn covered Muong Beng, Pakbeng and Muong Houn. In 1953 an enemy agent went to the Lao Theung villages located north of Ban Navang. After a short period the agent won the people over by playing upon injustices dealt people in the past. The French troops heard about this and destroyed the village. This caused the angry villagers to join the P.L. There was fighting off and on until 1959 when a large force of government troops was garrisoned nearby. **(Ban Navang – Lao)**

In 1951 the NVA/PL entered Ban Nakhong but did little more than propagandize since the area was in a state of conflict. **(Ban Nakhong)**

In 1957 Capt. Noutone commanded troops in Ban Tanambeng, but after 3 months the PL/NVA attacked and the troops retreated. Six months later the KMT under Capt. Ounheune attacked. Subsequently the village changed hands several times. **(Ban Tanambeng)**

### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Between 1959 and 1961 the enemy frequented villages in the area. **(Ban Mocyang)**

During World War II the villagers of Ban Phasaneng moved to Kiocacham and returned at the end of the war. During the French era the villagers moved again and returned. The PL came and they moved again. **(Ban Phasaneng – Hmong)**

### **Muong Pakseng**

Between 1954 and 1956 the PL/NVA controlled the area. In 1957 there was a directive from Vientiane that called for the NVA to leave Laos within 120 days. The NVA proceeded to organize a farewell party for the villagers and departed. In 1958 Capt. Sira (French) and Capt. Ouan Rathikoun stabled a camp in

Ban Sae. In 1959 a rumor to the effect that a large force of PL/NVA was planning an attack and this prompted the army and villagers to leave. **(Ban Sae)**

In 1959 the PL/NVA and RLG intermittently visited Ban Pakseng. The RLG attacked the area and gathered many of the villagers together in one place. In 1960 the enemy recaptured the area. **(Ban Pakseng – Lao)**

Naikong Xiengmang and Naikong Xiengleack staged a clearing operation in the vicinity of Sopxang and moved the refugees from to Ban Sae and then to Luang Prabang. **(Sopxang)**

Between 1959 and 1969 BV12 was in Soptick. **(Ban Soptick)**

In 1955 Ban Huakeang was 'liberated' by the PL/NVA. Later in the year the "Lao United Lao" program was implemented and the PL/NVA withdrew. **(Ban Huakeang)**

### **Muong Pak Ou**

Beginning 1958 the enemy controlled Ban Namphuan for five years until 1963. **(Ban Namphuan)**

### **Muong Nam Bac**

There was an Operations Brotherhood (OB) hospital in **Ban Muong Nom** from 1956-1957.

In 1958 Maj. Khamphay commanded a garrison in Ban Fa but was driven out in 1960. **(Ban Fa)**

## **1960**

### **Muong Houn**

In June 1960 the enemy attacked Muong Houn and succeeded in defeating Lt. Noutone. During the period of PL control over the area they recruited fifteen boys into the army, including Thao Feang, Thao Xiengia and Thao Xiengphanh. Thao Ayluang and Thao Titkaini, ex- RLG soldiers who were captured by the enemy, were executed. **(Ban Muong Houn)**

In 1960 RLG patrols out of Muong Houn would frequently visit Ban Nanengdy. The enemy would also visit for the purpose of propagandizing and obtaining supplies. **(Ban Nanengdy)**

In 1960 the enemy defeated a detachment of soldiers under Maj. Soutone which had been positioned in Ban Nakham for four months. During the subsequent period until 1962 the 300 villagers lived under the enemy. **(Ban Nakham)**

In 1960 the RLG established an outpost in Ban Nakhong. After a series of unsuccessful probes the enemy was finally victorious and after defeating the RLG forces charged into the village holding their guns at bay and prepared to shoot. The villagers spent most of the next three years under enemy control. The PL revamped the district administration, established a five-part rice taxation system, formed village committees and held weekly propaganda sessions. **(Ban Nakhong)**



### Muong Nam Bac

In 1960, when Nam Bac fell, until 1966 when RLG forces retook it, the villagers of Ban Fa lived under enemy control. **(Ban Fa)**

### Muong Xune

After one year in LP the villagers of Muong Xune returned home to select a National Assembly representative. **(Ban Muong Xune)**

### Muong Xai

Between 1960 and 1963 Ban Phatu was under enemy control. **(Ban Phatu)**

About 3000 PL/NVA entered Ban Phou Soung in 1960 and the villagers lived under their control for several years. **(Ban Phou Soung)**

### Muong Pakseng

In 1960 enemy drove out FAR soldiers. **(Ban Pakseng)**

Immediately following the Kong Le coup, PL began to enter villages in the Ban Houa Keng area and remained until 1967. **(Ban Houa Keng)**

### Muong Hiem

The enemy controlled the Muong Hiem area from 1960 to 1968. **(Ban Kok Kieng)**

## 1961

### Muong Houn

In 1961 Lt. Noutone and Maj. Soutone drove the enemy out of Muong Houn. **(Ban Muong Houn)**

### Muong Beng

On 27 April 1961 the enemy took the Napagnai area and during the following three months they requisitioned one ton of rice and five buffalo from each tasseng and forced the people to transport supplies. They also executed, for unknown reasons, Thao Rajatonkarang and his four children. On 17 August the informant, Thao Maykheua, tasseng of Tasseng Napa, managed to escape along with four other families to Luang Prabang. However, the majority of the population of the 28 villages in Tasseng Napa did not move. **(Ban Napagnai)**

### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Following PL entry in the Phasaneng area in 1959 (following their defection 8 August 1959 from Xieng Ngeun?) they attacked Xieng Khouang and, failing, returned to the Phasaneng area. Gen. Phoumi then established himself in the vicinity, only to be driven out a short time later by Kong Le. **(Ban Phasaneng)**

In 1961 on company of PL moved into the Mockamyong area and remained there for several years. **(Ban Mockamyong)**

During the period 1959 to 1961 PL were in the Ban Moc Yang area and established the Thanah Kong Chone, distributing to the men folk arms and ammunition. After several contacts with the RLG, however, the PL reclaimed the weapons. For all practical purposes, these people were under enemy control until 1969. **(Ban Mocyang)**

### **Muong Pakseng**

In 1961 the enemy drove BV-12 out of Soptick and ordered the villagers to move with them to a point several kilometers north of the village. The villagers remained under PL control for six years. **(Ban Soptick)**

## **1962**

### **Muong Houn**

In 1962 the enemy engaged RLG forces in a fierce five-day battle during which the RLG was forced to withdraw after sustaining heavy losses and exhausting their supply of ammunition. After five days following their victory, the enemy withdrew after they had carefully checked the houses of all villagers. The military forces were replaced by the khana-muong, a political agent, and a medic. The villagers were ordered to construct a rice warehouse, and each family was required to donate three gasoline tins full of rice.

Growing dissatisfaction among the villagers prompted them to contact the RLG troops located at Pakbeng and requested their assistance in driving out the PL. In March, under the guidance of three former PL soldiers from Muong Houn, a company of RLG troops occupied Muong Houn.

Three months later, however, the enemy re-attacked and burned the village down with flame-throwers. Having lost all of their property, and afraid that they would be killed by the PL, the villagers fled to Pakbeng, and from there to Luang Prabang. **(Ban Muong Houn)**

Following their takeover in 1960, enemy troops were withdrawn and replaced by the Panangan Ban Muong, a political agent, and fifteen PL soldiers. Their first step was to reorganize the village and selecting new village leaders on the basis on their receptiveness to the PL cause. Associations were established, as were seven family village units. A rice tax was instituted, and livestock were confiscated on credit. About 100 youths were recruited into the PL army. The Nakham school was taken over by the enemy, and a military medic regularly visited the sick.



In 1962 the villagers requested assistance from the RLG in expelling the enemy from their village. Twelve days after the villagers staged a coup RLG forces entered the village and remained there until 1965. **(Ban Nakham)**

Six months after Capt. Ounheuan drove out the enemy from Ban Tanambeng, they returned and succeeded in driving out the RLG forces. The villagers of Tanambeng were to live under enemy control until 1966. **(Ban Tanambeng)**

In 1962 the enemy attacked and the troops under Col. Bao retreated. **(Ban Naxiengdy)**

Ban Chantai was under enemy control between 1962 and 1964. **(Ban Chantai)**

In 1962 RLG forces established an outpost at Ban Houei Phra but were soon driven out. The village was under PL control from 1962 to 1965. **(Ban Houei Phra)**

### **Muong Xune**

Between 1962 and 1968 RLG troops were in Ban Hatsua. **(Ban Hatsua)**

### **Muong Xai**

After the fall of Muong Xai on 3 May 1962 Ban Moctone was occupied by the PL for three years. **(Ban Moctone)**

Ban Houei Kaneng was under enemy control from 1962 to 1965. **(Ban Houei Kaneng)**

### **Muong Paktha**

In 1962 the PL captured sixteen out of 22 villages in Muong Paktha. **(Ban Sibounheuang)**

In 1962 RLG troops established an outpost at Ban Paktha. **(Ban Paktha)**

In 1962 Col. Khamphay stationed a garrison of troops at Ban Donchai and remained there for two years. **(Ban Donchai)**

## **1963**

### **Muong Beng**

In 1963 (or 1962?) the enemy took over Ban Tha Meuan after driving out the RLG troops. **(Ban Tha Meuan)**

### **Muong Xune**

In 1963 Maj. Chamtale established an outpost in Ban Laumtay and remained there for one year.

### Xieng Ngeun

Between 1963 and 1965 the PL occasionally visited Ban Hinleck. **(Ban Hinleck)**

In 1963(?), after two years under PL control, Lt. Cheu and a force of RLG troops succeeded in driving out the PL. During the course of the two years three villagers were killed by the PL—Pho Lomgnai, Pho Kham, and Bac Pasen—because the PL had no use for people who smoked opium and were therefore non-productive. **(Ban Mockampang)**

### Muong Xai

After the fall of Muong Xai, the PL controlled the Ban Phatu area. Livestock was “purchased” on credit basis, associations (which met biweekly) were established, and teachers were sent from Muong Xai to teach school. Sick people were sent to Muong Xai to be treated, and a rice tax was instituted. Three villagers—Baxu, Bachu, and Chaseng—were accused by the enemy of being sympathetic to the RLG and were duly executed.

The villagers, who were dissatisfied under PL control, made contact with Sgt. Paoleemua (originally from Muong La) north of Muong Xai and staged a coup. Altogether thirteen villages in the area were involved. Following the coup, the villagers were given more arms and ammunition and remained in place. **(Ban Phatu)**

## 1964

### Muong Houn

In 1964 and 1965, the enemy moved around and about in the Naxiengdy area. **(Ban Naxiengdy)**

Between 1962 and 1964 Tasseng Moug Houn was under PL control. During this period the enemy demanded rice and one buffalo per month from. They recruited about 100 villagers into the army. After a short period, and amidst growing disillusionment, the new recruits staged a coup led by Tit Phan and Xieng Phan and easily defeated the fifteen PL based in the area. After driving out the enemy, the villagers contacted Lt. Sisouphanh and RLG forces returned to the village. **(Ban Simonghoun)**

In 1964 Col Bao drove out the enemy but was unable to hold Ban Nakhong and requested T-28 support. It is not clear whether or not the villagers were present during the bombing. **(Ban Nakhong)**

Between 1962 and 1964 the population of Ban Navang was under PL control. Village units were established, as were associations. Villagers were required to carry supplies during the daytime to Muong Beng and Muong Houn. Twelve persons, who were allegedly ex-RLG soldiers, were executed. Their names were Khong, Sieng Kiane, Xieng Khanty, Xieng Souk, Thao May, Xieng Phang, Thao Ngout, Xieng La, Xieng Tay, Xieng Oun, Xieng Sirany, and Xieng Khim.



In 1964 disillusionment with life under the PL prompted the villagers to contact the RLG troops at Pakbeng, and with their assistance staged a coup and drove out the PL. RLG forces then established an outpost in the village. **(Ban Navang)**

Between 1962 and 1964 Ban Chantai was under PL control. It was attacked in 1962 by NVA troops who remained in the village for 2 to 3 months at which time they were replaced by the PL. At this point, the PL began to revamp the village administrative structure. They confiscated the villagers' food and livestock, and took various people for 7-10 days of political training at Muong Houn. Lao Theung girls were the only people in the tasseng who were sent to Muong Xai to receive training as political agents. In the spring of 1964 the villagers—who had experienced increased pressure from the enemy—staged a coup and kicked out the PL's local political agents. They then request the RLG to send a company of soldiers to their village for protection. **(Ban Chantai – Lao)**

Following their takeover in 1962 the PL selected a new naiban in Ban Nakham and sent him for a week's training in Muong Houn. When the naiban returned he established the rice tax khao xianggrat and khao totan American. The rice was placed in a public warehouse. A plan to establish hai and na samakii fell through because of objections from the villagers. A teacher was named and received as his salary a portion of the rice collected from the villagers (kaao xiangrat). The portorage system was put into effect. Livestock was taken by the enemy without remunerating the villagers.

In 1964 villagers were recruited into the PL army. After three months the new recruits, who were assigned to guard duty around the camp, decided to stage a coup following numerous complaints from their relatives about the portorage system. The coup was successful. A short time later the enemy returned and was very harsh to the villagers, often beating them. **(Ban Nakham)**

### **Muong Xune**

One year after Maj. Chantale established a camp in Ban Laumtay the enemy attacked and succeeded in winning in July 1964. **(Ban Laumtay - Lao)**

### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

The enemy (one squadron) occupied Ban Pakmeng in 1964. **(Ban Pakmeng)**

### **Muong Xai**

Following the fall of Muong Xai in 1961 the village of Phou Soung was under enemy control until 1964(?) During this period the enemy utilized the available human resources to carry ammunition from the Chinese border. Husbands and wives were separated on the month-long journey which was made by 100 persons at a time.

Five villagers refused portorage duties claiming they will ill. After refusing to go three times they were ordered by the PL in Muong Xai to go to China to study because they were labeled as traitors. Three months after their departure their wives received letters from them that stated they were well and encouraged their wives to do their best to produce more rice and to carefully look after their children.

Several months later the wives received word that their husbands were dead but refused to believe the rumor because they had only recently received letters. After several years, however, the wives have resigned themselves to the fact that they would never see their husbands again.

Almost every night propaganda sessions were held, during which the recurrent theme was that the villagers were free from the yoke of American imperialism, that their worries were over, and that they should devote their efforts and resources to produce more rice and livestock as their contribution to sustaining the revolution.

Initially the villagers believed what the enemy said. Later on, however, they became disillusioned. For example, when a pig gave birth the litter of piglets were distributed among the PL soldiers, the kana tasseng and the panacngan cosana. The villagers were permitted to retain only the sows. If someone refused to turn over their share they were sent to study at the Chinese border.

Children were sent to study in schools in China, where study sessions lasted about seven months. The curriculum was in Lao.

A medic was in the area, but he served only the soldiers and not the villagers.

In March 1964, fed up with life under the PL the villagers escaped during the night and walked to Laota where they remained for one year. **(Ban Phou Soung)**

After the fall of Muong Xai in 1961 the village of Moctone was captured by the PL. During the first year under PL domination the villagers were hardly affected by the PL. During the second year the villagers were conscripted for portage duties. The third year came and associations were established for the old people and for the youth. The old age association had as its function to look after children, whose parents were engaged in the portage of goods. Five months after the creation of the associations the villagers complained to the PL that the portage system was an imposition on their daily lives. The result was that the PL took money from villagers to buy horses to transport supplies.

In 1964 Capt. Paoleemua succeeded in driving the enemy away from Moctone and remained in the area for two years. **(Ban Moctone)**

### **Muong Paktha**

After the fall of the Paktha area in 1962 the villagers lived under the control of the PL until 1964. Initially, their behavior toward the villagers was very good. The PL encouraged the people to work together shoulder to shoulder to drive out American imperialism. They told the population not to be afraid, that they do not eat human beings, and that the PL and the people should work together to build up the Lao nation. They stated that Laos belongs to the Lao, and that if they escaped they could not get out of Laos because the American would not take them to the United States. In conclusion, they said that anyone who so desired could leave and seek a safe haven in America.

Five months after entering Ban Sibounheuang the PL selected a new tasseng (the old one escaped to the RLG) and the heads of the Sang Khom, the Samaki unit, the Girls



Association, and the Boys Association. After being selected, the incumbents were sent off for one week of training in administrative procedures, village policy directives, etc.

The primary duty of the Sang Khom was to serve as liaison between the PL and the villagers. The head of the Samaki unit was responsible for promoting cooperation amongst the villagers, whether in farming or in social activities. One village unit head was designated for every seven houses. His function was, in effect, to spy on the people in his unit by observing their thoughts and actions, their reaction to PL directives, etc. In addition, he kept records on the number of livestock each person in his unit possessed.

The youth associations were charged with entertaining troops when they came into the village.

A rice tax, called khao xiangrat, was exacted on all villagers whenever soldiers entered the village or whenever the troops were in battle.

Two villagers were select for training at the Sounkang (location unknown). After four years of study they returned to the village as doctors.

In 1964 RLG troops drove the PL out of the area and remained in place for one year. **(Ban Sibounhuang - Lao)**

RLG trooks under Col. Khamphay were in the Hatly area from 1962 to 1964. The enemy attacked the outpost at Muong Pha and RLG forces retreated. **(Ban Hatly – Leu)**

### **Muong Pakbeng**

In 1964 RLG soldiers set up camp in Houei Soi under the leadership of Maj. Vi. The troops were divided into two groups. The Lao companies were to Houei Soi and the Yao solders to a nearby outpost. **(Ban Houei Soi – Yao)**

In 1964 Maj. Vie moved into the Ban Luangton area. **(Ban Luangtong – Lao)**

## **1965**

### **Muong Houn**

In 1960 the PL would often enter Naxiengdy in spite of the fact that the RLG troops were garrisoned in Muong Houn. The PL would come to propagandized, and to procure rice, poultry and dogs. Although they demanded ten kalongs of rice, the villagers would give them only three or four kalongs.

When the RLG troops would patrol near the village the PL would usually disperse in the forest. Otherwise, the PL exerted control. Initially there were 100 to 200 PL troops in the village. The soon left, however, and only four or five Kongchone soldiers and a political agent remained.

Although the remaining PL often came to the village they would not stay. Strict regulations existed for visiting troops. Villagers were instructed to notify the head PL in soldiers were seen flirting with girls or

took goods from the villagers. Laziness was not tolerated. Punishment for the first offence was reprimand; the third offence resulted in the guilty individual being sent to “study.”

A rice tax, khao xiangleua, was exacted from the villagers without cash remuneration.

Propaganda sessions were a regular event. The villagers were exhorted to work together to build up the Lao nation in accordance with directives from the central command, and to cooperate in throwing out the American imperialists who are sucking the motherland of valuable resources such as gold. Following the meetings the PL and villagers would join together and dance the lamvong—Faun Khipu, Faun Kiokhao, Fawn Damna, and Fawn Sangkham.

Following heavy fighting in the area in late 1965 and early 1966 the villagers of Naxiendy left their village. **(Ban Naxiengdy)**

In 1965 the NVA/PL moved into the Nakham area to fight RLG troops. All 87/300 families/people moved out with the retreating RLG forces to Ban Keangend, where they lived for three years. **(Ban Nakham - 1)**

In 1965 when the PL/NVA returned to attack Ban Chantai the one company of RLG troop retreated. During the next two months the villagers were under the PL and there were frequent T-28 airstrikes in the vicinity of the village. One person was killed during one of the airstrikes, and four were wounded. When BV-13 returned to strike the PL there were 30-40 PL/NVA in the village. The enemy took heavy casualties and was forced to withdraw. Five months later the enemy returned and the RLG soldiers, along with four villages out of 26 in Tasseng Chantai (including 456 out of 2200 people) retreated to Ban Xaxiengdy and Ban Bo, and finally to Luang Prabang in December 1965. **(Ban Chantai)**

Between 1962 and 1965 the villagers of Houei Phra lived under the PL. Initially the enemy was very friendly and polite. Unlike the RLG, they said, the PL would not confiscate villagers' goods but that donations from villagers wishing to help the Lao nation would be graciously received. Their sole aim, the PL said, was to free Laos from the imperialists.

After several months, however, a mandatory rice tax was levied in the form of khao total American, khao samaki, khao souayleua kengtap, and khao xuansat. The planned to establish associations but this was not implemented due to resistance from the villagers.

Several of the tassengs and naibans received training at the Muong Houn center. Study sessions were followed by a “gripe session” during which any problems or complaints could be brought up and discussed. However, the participants were reluctant to do anything but praise the enemy's system. The names of people who made critical remarks were recorded in a notebook.

In 1963 the naiban of Houei Phra was imprisoned in Muong Houn for 45 days because he did not follow orders. A petition from the villagers gained his release.

Villagers were subjected to the portage system and were forced to carry supplies to the PL in the Muong Xai and Long Tong areas.



In 1965 the RLG forces succeeded in driving away the enemy. Two months later the PL attacked again, but were defeated with the assistance of airstrikes. The RLG troops remained in the area until 1966.

**(Ban Houei Phra)**

In 1965 RLG troops from Muong Houn attacked the enemy. The PL retaliated by burning down the villages with a flame thrower, destroying all of the villagers' property. The villagers moved away empty-handed to the Tasseng Chantai area near Muong Houn. They moved again to Ban Bo five months later after the Chantai area came under enemy fire. The villagers proceeded to leave Ban Bo following airstrikes in the region targeting enemy positions and went to Ban Dan (Ban Houei Sai area) via Pakngao.

**(Ban Nakham – 2; Ref. Bouam Lao)**

**Muong Xune**

In 1965 the PL/NVA moved into the Ban Muong Xune area and were met by airstrikes around the Ban Pong area in Phongsaly, their logistics supply center.

Capt. Leena and his troops proceeded to move into the area and the enemy retreated. Twenty-seven out of 57 villages (and 3633 out of 5318) people moved out with Capt. Leena when he subsequently withdrew.

The villagers in this area lived under the enemy until 1965. During this time they were forced by the enemy to lamliang in the Sopnao area in Phong Saly. Village associations were established, as well as a new naiban, neo muong, and neo tasseng. **(Ban Muong Xune – Lao Theung, Lao, Hmong)**

Capt. Leena moved into the Pak Nga area for two months during 1965. During this time many villagers moved into Pak Nga from the surrounding area, including Ban Hatphang, Ban Hatkip, Muong Sung, Ban Naleng, Ban Nakham, Ban Houei Hup, Ban Ne, Ban Houei Houg, Ban Houei lam, and Ban Houei Ham. Leena then moved down to the Nam Thuam area.

The Pak Nga villagers, frightened at the prospect that the enemy would come and kill them, moved from their village to Ban Hat Phang, where they remained for 26 days, and from there to Ban Kork. **(Ban Pak Nga – Lao)**

**Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Between 1963 and 1965 the PL used to move around the Ban Hinleck area demanding food from the villagers and forcing them to transport their supplies. The former demand placed a great imposition on the villagers, who had barely enough food for themselves. In 1965 BV-12 under Col. Bon moved into the area. **(Ban Hinleck)**

In 1965 the enemy moved into the Ban Houei Lananggnay area. **(Ban Houei Lananggnay)**

**Muong Xai**

With the fall of Laota in 1965 the Phou Soung refugees moved to Mocplay, and from there to Ban Kork. **(Ban Phou Xoung)**

In 1965 the PL/NVA moved about between Hua Houeiya and Bangkoune. They arrested a naiban and an assistant naiban for investigation. When Capt. Paoleemua heard about this, he told the villagers to move to Laota. After they had been in Laota for eight months, the enemy attacked and the 243 villagers were split up into many groups, one of which was captured and forced to return to their native village. The rest of them moved to Luang Prabang. **(Ban Hua Houeiya)**

The villagers of Houei Kaneng lived under enemy control for three years. When the PL/NVA moved into the village in 1962 they carefully checked each house. Two weeks later, they captured two RLG soldiers who had gone home to visit their parents. When questioned by the enemy as to whether they were soldiers they replied in the negative. Asked why they wore uniforms, the two boys yielded and were promptly arrested. En route to a point in the Laota area the enemy executed them.

All villagers were required to carry supplies for the PL. Furthermore, there was a rice tax: khao khun xang, khao xuay xat, and khao suanluam.

In 1965 Capt. Paoleemua attacked the enemy in the Houei Kaneng area. He told villagers in the area that they could move out with his troops if they so desired. All 173 person elected to do so and moved to Laota. Following the fall of Laota they moved to Mocplay. Five months later Mocplay was attacked and many of the villagers were killed by the enemy. The PL stated that since the villagers fled from them they would kill them all. Accordingly, all but 78 persons, who moved to Houei Yo, were either executed or taken back to their original village by the PL. **(Nam Houei Kaneng)**

Ban Nam Xae was under enemy control from 1965 to 1967. **(Ban Nam Xae)**

### **Muong You**

In 1965 the PL/NVA attacked the Neutralists from Muong Souei and burned down all of the houses and the wat with a flame thrower. The villagers moved into their fields. Meo soldiers moved into the area.

The Muong You people were previously under PL control for one month. The SGU troops succeeded in driving them out but did not remain in the area. Accordingly, the villagers asked the Neutralists to provide them with protection. **(Ban Muong You)**

### **Muong Paktha**

In 1965 Ban Sibounheuang changed hands two times. Finally, the RLG gained control and remained for one year. All of the villagers were organized to become village soldiers. **(Ban Sibounheuang)**

## **1966**

### **Muong Houn**

The villagers of Tanambeng lived under enemy control from 1962 to 1966. After entering the village, the PL carefully checked the village and confiscated all RLG military equipment, uniforms, etc. that they



could find. Mr. Xiengda was selected by the villagers to be the new naiban, his predecessor having fled with RLG forces. Daily political training sessions were held and all villagers were required to attend.

A survey was made to determine the number of people in the village, who had relatives in the RLG army, how many livestock were in the village, and how much rice was available. The latter piece of information was necessary to determine the amount of rice that could be turned over to the army.

In April 1962 Ayluang, a local merchant, was arrested on the grounds that he was a spy, and he was sent to "study." His corpse was later found north of Muong Houn.

After five or six months the neoban was elected and associations were established. Although the elections were implemented by means of the secret ballot, in reality they were manipulated by the PL. Xieng Vanna was selected to be the neoban, and he was sent to Muong Houn for seven days of training.

Emphasis was placed on agricultural production, and a rudimentary agriculture training program was initiated. A rice tax was promulgated in which the villagers were required to turn over 1/3 of their harvest to the PL.

The village was bombed by T-28s on three occasions, and half of the houses were destroyed. All of the remaining houses were burned during an airstrike following the villagers' departure. **(Ban Tanambeng – Lao)**

Disillusioned with life under the PL the tasseng of Tasseng Navang contacted Col. Houmpheng (in 1965?) at Pakbeng and requested assistance to drive out the PL. The villagers staged a coup under the leadership of Sen Koumphene and Xieng Phou. Lt. Sisouphan then established a camp in the area. **(Ban Navang)**

In 1966 (1965?) RLG forces entered the Naxiengdy area and offered the villagers an opportunity to leave. Out of eight villages (four Lao Theung, three Hmong, one Thai Dam) only three villages and 406 persons left and went to Ban Bo where they remained for two months before moving to Luang Prabang. **(Naxiengdy)**

In 1966 (1965?) Ban Tai Noi was under PL control. One day at 1800 hours the T-28s hit the village and one villager named May Oun was killed and three others (Sao Thao, Sao Choum, and Thao Kok Kock) were wounded. The air strike was followed by a RLG offensive which resulted in 132 out of 210 villagers moving to Naxiengdy, and from there to Ban Bo and, later, to Luang Prabang. **(Ban Tai Noi)**

In 1966 the PL renewed fighting in the Houei Phra area and the RLG forces were forced to retreat following heavy fighting. All of the villagers moved out with the soldiers. **(Ban Houei Phra)**

### **Muong Nam Bac**

From 1960 to 1966 the villagers of Ban Tha Bou were under PL control. In 1966 RLG forces took over and 63 out of 193 persons left with RLG troops for Luang Prabang.

During their six years under PL control the village administrative structure was reformed with a new naiban, an assistant naiban, a neoban, and unit leaders being installed. Associations were formed, and members were required to meet weekly under the chairmanship of the Chao Panacngan Ban.

The villagers complained that they rarely had enough time to work for themselves, most of their time being spent working for the PL carrying supplies, etc. **(Ban Tha Bou – Tai Dam)**

During the six years Ban Ly was under PL control numerous restrictions were placed on the villagers. In addition to established a new naiban and a new neoban, associations were established and village ten-house units were formed. The Chao Panacngan Ban served as the political arm in the village. Like the “neo” structure, the “Panacngan” was a parallel structure extending from the village to the provincial level.

Propaganda sessions were frequent, usually beginning with the lamvong xiasana and finishing with the lamvong samakhi. The lamvong was preceded by propaganda, usually highlighting the PL’s military accomplishments. The lamvong was accompanied by singing, clapping and music played on instruments fashioned from gasoline tins.

After several months the behavior of the PL was radically different from their initial exuberant attitude. They began to take the villagers livestock without payment and all of their rice harvest exceeding 30 kalongs which were allotted to each family.

During the fifth month T-28s bombed the area and the villagers built small houses in the surrounding forests. A subsequent airstrike destroyed the village.

The villagers’ working day in their fields usually began at dawn and usually lasted until 0800 hours.

All villagers were required to participate in the portage system which took them to Muong Xai and sometimes to Sopnao in Phong Saly Province.

The education system fell apart during the years of PL rule. **(Ban Ly)**

After entering Ban Fa, the enemy assured the population that life would continue as before. School continued with a new teacher, who was a literate local villager, and PL school books were used.

The administrative structure was reformed with elections of new leaders being based on a show of hands. Associations were established and local village meetings were held on a weekly basis.

Thirty people were executed, mostly old naibans, soldiers, and teachers.

Every year the villagers celebrated the Boun Mahoran, in which Ho Chi Minh’s picture was prominently displayed above that of Souphanavong.

Occasionally airstrikes were directed against enemy supply routes in the area.

In 1966 Col. Khamphay Sayasith retook the Nam Bac area. **(Ban Fa)**



### **Muong Xune**

In 1966 RLG soldiers led by Phukong Xeng were dispatched to Simonkhoun due to growing PL pressure in the area. **(Ban Simonkhoun)**

The villagers of Lat En lived under PL control for six years. In 1966 RLG troops moved into the area and attacked the village where only three PL soldiers resided. The wife of the naiban was wounded during the ensuing firefight. Seven villages out of 43, and 1392 people out of 5776 left with the RLG soldiers, moving first to Moclack (TH-3062) and then to Nam Thuam and Ban Kork.

During the six years the villagers spent under the PL associations were established. Perhaps one of the most vital of the various functions of the associations was the duty of the girls association to encourage boys to enlist in the PL army, the outcome being that many of the village boys joined the PL military.

Villagers were required to carry supplies from the Sopnao area.

Selling or exchanging goods was prohibited by the PL. This regulation was skirted when the PL were not present in the village for one reason or another. **(Ban Lat En)**

The Pak Nga refugees sought a safe haven in Ban Kork only to be displaced again in 1966 when the PL attacked. During the attack 47 villagers were captured and forced to return home. The balance of the Pak Nga refugees moved to the Pak Ou area. **(Ban Pak Nga)**

### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Following increased enemy pressure in the area, the villagers of Ban Hinleck requested permission from RLG soldiers to move to Xieng Ngeun. Permission was granted and they moved in March 1966 via Ban Paksu. **(Nam Hinleck)**

In 1966 Col. Bon moved into the Pakmeng area and established an outpost. However, the security in the area remained tenuous. Ban Pakmeng had been under the PL for two years between 1964 and 1966. In 1965 the PL killed the assistant naiban, Nai Muntan, after he went to Luang Prabang to collect his government salary and returned with new clothes for his wife and children. The PL accused him of being a spy. Only five to ten PL were located permanently in the village.

During the second year under PL control khao prakob (harmony rice) was collected. The quota was contingent upon the economic wellbeing of the villages, with well-to-do villagers required to provide two kalongs of rice while poorer villagers only had to give one kalong. **(Ban Pakmeng)**

### **Muong Xai**

In 1966 the PL attacked the Phatu area and 37 villages out of 65 villages and 4460 out of 7800 people moved out with RLG troops to Pha Thong, where they stayed for one month, and from there to Mokplai, where they stayed for six months before being driven out the the PL to the Phou Dam area. **(Ban Phatu)**

In 1966 the PL attacked Mocplai and the Moctone refugees moved to Ban Houei Yo. **(Ban Moctone)**

### **Muong Pakseng**

In 1966 RLG troops under Col. Boun Phen and Nai Kong Khammuane attacked Ban Pakseng which had been under PL control since 1960. Six villages (608 people) out of 68 villages moved into Pakseng and from there to Soptick. The PL followed and the refugees were again forced to move, this time to Luang Prabang. **(Ban Pakseng)**

### **Muong Paktha**

Ban Sibounheuang changed hands again several times, with four families succeeded in escaping to Paktha. **(Ban Sibounheuang)**

### **Muong Hiem**

On 8 August 1966 a patrol of RLG soldiers from Muong Hiem entered Ban Men and spent the night. As security in the area was spotty, the villagers moved to Muong Hiem on the following day and were later transported to Vang Vieng by plane. **(Ban Men)**

## **1967**

### **Muong Houn**

In March 1967 the PL attacked again and Col. Bao was forced to withdraw in spite of airstrikes directed against PL positions. Out of 1000 villagers 69 moved with Col. Bao to Luang Prabang. **(Ban Nakhong)**

### **Muong Nam Bac**

In early 1967(?), Col. Khamphay retook Nam Bac. During their six years under the PL the villagers were forced to carry rice and ammunition for the enemy to Nam Tha, a one-month journey.

Village units and associations were established and the “Neo” was the controlling force in the village. Weekly meetings were held. The “Neo” frequently conducted propaganda sessions during which villagers were exhorted to wake up to the fact that the Americans sucked Laotian blood and ate the treasures in the Lao body. One objective of the various meetings was to persuade young men to enlist in the army. Another recruiting technique was to send the boys to the sounkang in Sam Neua for training in various “specialized fields.”

Three villagers were accused of being spies and were sentenced to death by a kangaroo court. After convicting them public statements of their wrongdoings were read and the three men were given five minutes to bid farewell to their wives, children, and friends. They were then brought to the middle of the village in front of all of the villagers and shot. **(Ban Nagnang)**



### **Muong Pak Ou**

Between 1963 and 1967, the PL would frequently come and harass the RLG troops, who moved in and around the Namphuan, area as well as the villagers. The PL finally regained the upper hand in 1967.

**(Ban Namphuan)**

### **Muong Xune**

During the period 1966 to 1967 the PL harassed RLG troops under Phukong Xeng. The RLF troops withdrew and some of the villagers moved, as well. **(Ban Simonghoun)**

In 1967 Ban Pak Nga villagers moved to Khom Khian following fighting in the Pak Ou area. **(Ban Pak Nga)**

In 1967 the Laumtay villagers moved from Houei Pene to Houei Yo. **(Ban Laumtay)**

### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

In 1967 the situation in the Pakmeng area was critical and the RLG soldiers ordered the villagers to move out. They walked to Paksa and proceeded by boat to Xieng Ngeun. **(Ban Pakmeng)**

### **Muong Xai**

In 1967 the Nam Xae villagers moved to Ban Namngoua at the prompting of Paoleemua. During their two years under the PL from 1965 to 1967 the villagers were under careful scrutiny when the enemy first entered the village. A survey was conducted to determine how many people remained in the village, how many had left as refugees, and who had relatives working for the RLG. During the subsequent period the villagers were checked three times per day. Explanations had to be tendered by those who had gone out from the village, and anybody who entered the village had to be reported. Occasionally, a PL dressed up as a RLG soldier entered the village and asked to stay with the villagers. In the event if the villagers didn't notify the head of the PL they would be sent off to study for five days.

Associations were established and a new naiban—a person who was very poor—was named. A neoban was also appointed and village units were established. Unit heads were selected by the villagers under the supervision of the political agents. Unit heads and chiefs of the various associations met daily and met with the naiban once every five days. Once a week a village meeting was held, and every twelve days the naiban and two political panacngans met with the tasseng. Every fifteen days the tasseng met with the chao muong.

Villagers were required to portage goods from the China border area to Muong Phet, located near Muong Xai. **(Ban Nam Xae)**

Houei Houeiya villagers moved from Luang Prabang to Sayaboury in order to find more productive land. **(Ban Hua Houeiya)**

### **Muong Pakseng**

In 1967 BV-16 under Colonels Bounpheng and Sountone entered the Soptick area without meeting undo resistance. The villagers—eleven villages out of 53, and 1178 people out of 7250) moved to Pak Meut in July and August. During the previous six years, while living under the PL, the villagers were subject to the standard PL program. **(Ban Soptick)**

### **Muong Pakbeng**

In 1967 the Houei Soy area came under attack for three days and three nights. Companies 2 and 4 retreated, and the Yao troops were left to face the enemy alone. As the Yao soon ran short of food, water and ammunition, Major Vi ordered a retreat. During the retreat two Yao soldiers (Lao Kao Sen and Lao Kao Way) were captured and killed.

Fifteen days later the troops regrouped at Pakbeng and returned to the area to get their families. They met little resistance. En route to Pakbeng, however, two women were killed and two wounded during a PL ambush. They went first to Mockachoak and then moved to Hong Sa by plane following enemy activity in the area. **(Ban Houei Soy)**

In 1964 Maj. Vi moved into the Luang Tong area a staged a clearing operation. Some of his troops were located in the immediate vicinity of Luang Tong but left after only a short time. A month later the PL moved back in and began to implement their various programs.

In 1967 Maj. Vi moved in again and ordered the villagers to move out. **(Ban Luang Tong)**

### **Muong Hiem**

The villagers of Pong Noc fled to Nong Hat in the vicinity of LS-33 area following fighting in the area. **(Ban Pong Noc – Hmong)**

## **1968**

### **Muong Houn**

In 1968, after Nakham villagers lived in Ban Keangend (sp?) for three years, the PL moved into the area and the villagers moved out with some going to Luang Prabang and others to Hong Sa. **(Ban Nakham)**

After leaving Navang in 1966 the inhabitants moved to Ban Houeichong which was located three kilometers north of Pakbeng. In 1968 the PL came into Houeichong and between 1900 hours and 2400 hours they attempted to force people to return to Ban Navang. Most of the villagers were able to escape, however. **(Ban Navang)**

### **Muong Nam Bac**

In January 1968 a number of the villagers left with the retreating troops after the fall of Nam Bac. The balance of the twenty villages out of 33 (785 out of 3680 people) left several months later when soldiers



went back in to rescue them. The refugees proceeded to Ban Kok and continued on to Luang Prabang by chopper. **(Namheuang)**

In 1968 Nam Bac fell and fourteen out of 33 villages and 537 out of 12,000 people moved to Lat Han and Luang Prabang. **(Ban Fa)**

In 1968 the Muong Nam villagers moved to Luang Prabang, one group by foot the other by chopper.

In 1959 the PL had killed sever villagers who were considered to be spies. The PL read their sentence, allowed them fifteen minutes to bid their families and friends farewell. They were then led to the spot where the execution was to take place. One PL whistled and the other one shot. **(Muong Nam)**

The Nangang villagers moved out following the fall of Nam Bac. They walked part of the way and then continued by chopper. **(Ban Nangang)**

### **Muong Pak Ou**

In 1968 RLG troops under Capt. Somboun were located in Ban Hatteu. **(Ban Hatteu)**

In 1968 RLG soldiers from Luang Prabang set up camp in Ban Phatheung. Several months later the PL attacked and the RLG soldiers in the Hat Kho outpost retreated to Ban Hat Kham, and from there to Ban Somsanouk. The PL then entered Ban Hat Kho. **(Ban Hat Kho)**

The PL moved into Phatung in 1968. **(Phatung)**

### **Muong Xune**

After leaving Simonkhoun in 1967 the villagers went to Ban Phukhuang, which was located on the trail to Ban Kok. The PL were in the area and attacked Phukuang in 1968 and took over. **(Simonkhoun)**

In 1968 the PL drove out RLG troops from Xiengda. **(Xiengda)**

### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Between 1965 and 1967 Ban Lanonggnay was under PL control. Men were drafted into the PL army, and the PL organized the Souvannari and promoted cooperative farming. In 1968 RLG troops cleared the area of PL and established a Ban Lanenggnay village militia. **(Ban Lanonggnay)**

### **Muong Khay**

In early 1968 enemy soldiers moved into Ban Hay and confiscated the villagers' rice. A short time later soldiers under the command of Capt. Ounheuan moved in and the PL retreated. Several weeks later the PL probed the area but were driven back with the assistance of T-28s. **(Ban Hay)**

### **Muong Hiem**

Between 1960 and 1968 the Kok Kieng area was under PL control. During this period three men (Nai Manh, Thao Ly and Thao Mone) were executed. There were frequent airstrikes in the area.

In 1968 a group of 67 out of 275 people walked out during the night to LS-33 (San Ph Kha) and remained there for one year. **(Kok Kieng)**

In May 1968 a total of 615 people from the Nhot Ngo area moved to Phu Cum (LS-50) following an enemy attack which left 26 people dead. **(Nhot Ngo)**

## 1969

### Muong Houn

Tanambeng refugees moved from Luang Prabang to Sayaboury. **(Tanambeng)**

### Muong Beng

Following the revolt by PL under Xieng Phou in Muong Houn, the villagers of Ban Tha Meuan, who had requested permission from the PL to move to Ban Vang Nong near Muong Houn, were in friendly territory. In 1969(?) PL forces returned to fight in the area, and because the RLG troops were unable to effectively resist they retreated along with the 111 villagers of Tha Meuan. They moved first to Pakbeng, and when the situation around Pakbeng deteriorated, they moved to Hong Sa and finally to Sayaboury. **(Ban Tha Meuan – Leu)**

### Muong Pak Ou

In June 1969 the PL hit Hatteu in an attack that lasted one hour. RLG soldiers were forced to withdraw and left six dead behind. The PL proceeded to enter the village. **(Hatteu)**

After coming under enemy control once again in 1967, for the second time the PL demanded rice, pigs, hens and dogs from Namphuan villagers without demand. Two villagers who could read and write were selected to be teachers.

Soon disillusioned, the villagers wrote a letter to the RLG soldiers at Ban Hatteu and send two villagers to deliver the letter. In response, thirty soldiers, guided by the two villagers, made their way back to Namphuan. However, en route they were ambushed by the PL. Three months later the villagers made contact with the Hatteu garrison once again, and a squad of twelve soldiers left Hatteu at 0600 hours in April 1969 and entered Namphuan later that night. The villagers, who were waiting, moved out with the soldiers to Ban Bo. Following disturbances in that area, the refugees proceeded to Muong Nam.

### **(Namphuan)**

After Ban Hat Kho came under enemy control in 1968 the RLG soldiers from that area requested T-28s to direct airstrikes against the PL. The outcome was that Hat Kho was burned and two villagers (May Choy and May Sing) were killed. The villagers then moved their belongings to a point near the bank of the Nam Ou. On 4 July 1969 they proceeded to Ban Muang and then to Khon Khiene. The PL approved the move since they were unable to provide rehabilitation assistance to the refugees. **(Ban Hat Kho – Leu)**



In 1969 approximately 2000 PL/NVA moved into Lathahae area. Five political agents came into the village and organized a meeting, which was followed by a lamvong. Aside from informing the villagers that they should cooperate with each other the PL stated that they planned to establish cooperative associations and install political agents in the village.

The PL also told the villagers not to continue to live in the village due to the likelihood of airstrikes. However, the villagers did not believe the PL. A short while later T-28s arrived to bomb the area and several bombs hit the village burning all of the houses and killing seven people, ten buffaloes and fifteen pigs. The villagers then followed the PLs earlier advice and moved to their fields where they built temporary shelters.

Two months later the five PL agents left, and the villagers secretly contacted RLG soldiers at Moc Ho. The area commander told the people that they could move to Moc Ho, and they proceeded to do so. During the following two months the PL attacked Moc Ho several times and the frightened villagers requested permission to move to a more peaceful area. The Moc Ho command then contacted Luang Prabang and the 175 refugees were subsequently transported by helicopter to Luang Prabang in May 1969 and were relocated in Ban Pic Noi. **(Ban Lathahae)**

In 1968 the PL moved into Ban Phatung. During the first two to three months the behavior of the PL was good. As time passed, however, pressure increased on the villagers to provide food without payment.

In early 1969 the villagers often had to hide in holes because there were frequent airstrikes against PL positions in the area and because there were eight PL in the village. Frightened, the villagers succeeded in escaping to Ban Khonkiene in July. **(Ban Phatung)**

### **Muong Xune**

After taking over the Phukuang area, 25 PL moved in and established rice and ammunition depots. One week later, all but five of the PL left. The remaining PL elements ordered the villagers to construct two warehouses and forced them to portage goods south to the Pak Nga area.

The villagers were carefully watched, were not permitted to have radios and armaments, and were prohibited from expressing their thoughts and feelings.

The PL had plans to draft the young men into their army but complaints from the villagers indicated that this could not be pushed too far.

In 1969 four villagers who were transporting ammunition to Pha Khae by boat accidentally capsized while shooting some rapids. These four individuals were promptly labeled by the PL as being RLG agents and executed.

The villagers moved into the forest for fear of bombing strikes, but the airstrikes were always in the distance. The villagers were contacted by RLG troops under Col. Ounheuan and readily moved to more secure areas with the RLG soldiers. After moving to Moc Muong, 158 out of 238 villagers were transported by chopper to Luang Prabang. **(Ban Simonkhoun)**

Between 1968 and 1969 the villagers of the Xiengda area were under PL control. During this period approximately 150 persons—mostly dependents of RLG soldiers—were murdered by the enemy in a campaign to stamp out villagers' support to RLG forces still in the area.

In February 1969 the RLG troops returned to attack the PL, and upon their withdrawal the people moved down to Ban Lathan with the soldiers, a seven-day walk. After staying in Lathan for one week, rumors circulated that the enemy was nearby and this prompted the villagers to move on to Luang Prabang.

#### **(Xiengda)**

In 1969 twenty PL entered Ban Houei Peang and after holding a propaganda session left. Three days later T-28s bombed suspected enemy positions around the village. The following day the T-28s bombed the village but no one was killed. At this point the villagers moved to their highland rice fields. Seven days later the T-28s returned to hit positions near the fields and three villagers (Nang Sourya, Sao Yieng, and Mayphom) were killed.

Shortly thereafter the villagers contacted the RLG soldiers garrisoned at Moc Ho and expressed their desire to move to Moc Ho but were reluctant to do so without an armed escort for fear of being captured by PL soldiers. Accordingly, a total of 322 people departed for Moc Ho on 18 February 1969, with 128 persons remaining behind. Those who remained did not leave because they were afraid that they would not receive food assistance.

After staying at Moc Ho for two months the refugees requested permission to move to Luang Prabang and were duly transported by helicopter. Upon arriving in Luang Prabang they were relocated in Ban Pic Noi. **(Houei Peang)**

In 1969 PL/NVA forces attacked the RLG outpost commanded by Capt. Nouken. Subsequently the villagers lived under PL control for one month. During this period the PL did not demand food but merely told the villagers not to leave their houses after 2000 hours without a flashlight.

While the PL were positioned in the village T-28s bombed the area killing three people and burning all of the houses. After moving to their highland fields the planes made yet another strike. At this point, September 1969, the villagers moved to Moc Ho where they remained for five months. **(Ban Hatsua)**

In 1969 Laumtay refugees moved from Houei Yo to Sayaboury due to enemy activities in the area. **(Ban Laumtay)**

#### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

In 1969 the PL attacked government positions at Phakeng causing RLG soldiers to withdraw. After hearing about the fall of Phakeng the villagers of Houei Lanonggnay were frightened and moved toward Kiokacham. After they began moving the refugees received word that Phakeng had been retaken by the RLG and nine families decided to return home. The remaining 209 refugees reasoned that since Phakeng would probably come under attack again they might as well go ahead and move. They arrived in Xieng Ngeun via Kiokacham and Vang Pong. **(Houei Lanonggnay)**



Information about Mockampang is unclear. **(Mockampang)**

The villagers of Ban Mocyang were within the PL's sphere of influence ever since 1961. In 1969 seven PL soldiers, aware of the fact that some of the villagers had plans to escape to RLG held territory, entered Ban Mocyang.

A short time later Capt. Vangxang moved into the area, made contact with the enemy and drove them away. They then ordered the villagers to leave and proceeded to burn down their houses. The villagers then moved down to Ban Kok Ngoi, from which place the Chao Muong of Xieng Ngeun provided the refugees with transportation to Xieng Ngeun. **(Ban Mocyang)**

### **Muong You**

In May 1969 the villagers moved to Phu Lac following the fall of Muong You.

### **Muong Khay**

In 1969 the villagers of Ban Hay, fearful of enemy harassment, requested permission from local RLG military commanders to move to Luang Prabang. **(Ban Hay – Tai Dam)**

### **Muong Pakseng**

In May 1969 approximately 2000 PL moved into the Soptick area following the loss of Ban Kok. Only seven PL political moved into the village. Several days later T-28s struck and the people moved up to Moc Ho where they remained for several months. **(Soptick)**

### **Muong Hiem**

Pong Noc refugees moved from LS-33 to Phu Cum (LS-50) in 1969 after the PL captured LS-33). **(Pong Noc)**

## **1970**

### **Muong Pak Ou**

Between 1967 and 1970 the PL took 700 gasoline tins full of rice from the Ban Naxan villagers, as well as forty pigs and 600 hens, all without payment.

On 25 May 1970, Ban Naxan villagers—numbering 78 families and 478 persons—fled from their homes following heavy fighting in their area. Midway between Naxan and Paksam the PL intercepted the refugees and forced 25 families to return to their village against their will. The 57 families and 287 persons who evaded the enemy settled at Ban Khonkien. **(Ban Naxan)**

The PL drove out RLG troops from Hatteu on 24 June 1969. During the following six months the villagers were ordered to carry supplies to Ban Bo and Ban Le. There were propaganda training sessions every five or six days.

On 31 June(?) 1970 RLG troops attacked the PL, who numbered nineteen in Ban Hatteu, and achieved victory with ease. Two months later the PL counter-attacked on 19 March(?) and heavy fighting ensued, during which six villagers were killed.

The PL did not have time to implement the various facets of their political program during their stay in Hatteu. **(Ban Hatteu)**

### **Muong Pakseng**

In January 1970 the villagers of Soptick moved from Moc Ho to Luang Prabang by helicopter after their request to leave was honored. **(Soptick)**

### **Muong Paktha**

In May(?) 1970 enemy forces attacked and captured Ban Paktha and occupied the village for more than one month. Two days following its capture the villagers were conscripted by the PL to carry supplies from Ban Hatsua which is located north along the Nam Tha River.

The PL Chao Muong of Paktha and the Panacngan Muong entered the village at the time of its capture but were unable to implement their political program by the time the village was recaptured by RLG forces. **(Ban Paktha)**

Following the capture by the PL of Ban Hatly in 1964 they attempted to confiscate ten buffalo and 120 kalongs of khaosan. The villagers did not provide them with the full amount because they simply couldn't afford it.

Later the PL/NVA arrested the naiban of Ban Hatly and the Tasseng of Hatly on the grounds that they harbored RLG spies and they were taken to Muong Pha. The naiban was finally released, but the tasseng was taken off to the PL "Samnac" (location unknown).

RLG troops later came to the Hatly area and contacted the naiban, who they interrogated and brought to RLG territory. In August 1970 the villagers, following their leader, walked to Ban Sansum, where they remained for one week before going to Ban Houei Phiboun. **(Ban Hatly – Leu)**

### **Muong Hiem**

In May 1970 Ban Houei Chem was captured by the PL and 1000 of its people fled to Phu Cum (LS-50).

During the course of an eight-year period of warfare in the Houei Chem area 28 men and one woman were killed. **(Ban Houei Chem)**



## **1971**

### **Muong Sopvi**

On 20 March 1971 enemy forces attacked the Ban Kok Van village militia. During the ensuing battle two village guards were killed and six wounded. Five PL soldiers were killed.

After the PL succeeded in over-running the village they captured the tasseng, who was the leader of the local guard unit, and threatened to send him to Xieng Khouang. The villagers protested, however, and stated that if the enemy kidnapped the tasseng they would flee to RLG controlled areas. The PL relented but kept the tasseng under house arrest.

The PL occupied Ban Kok Van until 15 April. During their occupation the PL held meetings, demanded 150 kalongs of rice from the villagers (who gave them only thirteen kalongs) and told them that if they wanted to move they should head north and not south.

On 15 April airstrikes in the area prompted the PL to flee. During the initial confusion the Kok Van villagers were able to escape to a secure area near Xieng Lom. **(Ban Kok Van)**

On 20 March at 2000 hours NVA attacked the RLG outpost located at Ban Bo Hai causing the RLG forces to retreat. The enemy remained in the village until 24 April when the RLG troops staged an offensive in the area. Afraid that the enemy might return the villagers went to Luang Prabang. **(Ban Bo Hai)**

### **Muong Xai**

The Longya refugees moved to Phou Luang Tai located near Luang Prabang in 1965 after they were driven from Muong Xai by enemy forces. On 22 March three groups of PL/NVA moved to the Phou Luang Tai area. The naiban of the village notified RLG troops who proceeded to set up an outpost at nearby Phou Luang Neua. Many of the Ban Longya refugees moved to the outpost with the soldiers.

Several days later villagers who went to gather firewood in the forest met a group of PL soldiers, who told them that if the Ban Longya people attempted to flee to Luang Prabang the PL would shoot rockets into the village and kill everyone. Upon hearing this threat the villagers returned to Phou Lunang Neua and reported what they had heard to the RLG soldiers. The soldiers immediately began to fire their 60 mm. mortar at the general area where the PL were sighted. A short time later the villagers fled to Luang Prabang when the situation deteriorated. **(Ban Longya)**

### **Muong Pak Ou**

Battalion 204 located at Phou Fai Mai under the leadership of Col. Souban came under attack at 2300 hours on the night of 20 April. On the following day Col. Souban went to Xang Hai to tell the villagers that the enemy was near and that they should move. Following the firefight of the previous evening the RLG troops moved to Ban Muong Kham.

Before the villagers had an opportunity to leave the PL entered the village and asked to see the naiban. During the course of the meeting the PL asked the naiban if it was true that he had worked with the village militia in 1968. The naiban answered in the affirmative and said that he had worked for the home guard for 1-1/2 years but that he had already resigned from this post.

The naiban was placed under house arrest. On 4 April when the PL came to see him the naiban arranged to have several village girls present to serve them lao lao (Lao whisky). The soldiers thus occupied, the naiban gathered his family together and made a break for his boat which was tied up on the bank of the river and managed to paddle to Luang Prabang. Not without incident, however. En route to Luang Prabang the PL shot at the naiban's boat several times.

Once in Luang Prabang the naiban reported that the PL told the villagers that there was no point in going to Luang Prabang because LP was going to fall any day. The PL told the villagers that if they didn't believe what they said they should wait several days when rockets would be fired into the city and everyone there would be killed. **(Ban Xang Hai)**

The villagers of Ban Le were under PL control for three weeks, from 2 February until 23 February. During the course of the occupation the villagers were unable to escape. On the night of 22 February, however, 122 villagers made their getaway by boat leaving thirty villagers, in whose houses the PL were staying, behind.

While the PL were in the village they conscripted only rice since they already had their own stock of canned meat. The PL used Ban Le as a storage depot for ammunition and other supplies. **(Ban Le)**

### **Muong Pakseng**

In 1971 the PL captured Phu Soy and as a result were in a position to control the surrounding area, including Ban Phone Savanh. Ten days later RLG forces went to attack the PL at Phu Soy. During the ensuing confusion in the PL ranks the villagers fled to villages closer to Luang Prabang.

The naiban reported that during the ten days of PL occupation he did not once see a Lao face among the invaders—they were all Vietnamese. The NVA set up a radio in the village and when they talked on the radio they spoke only in Vietnamese. **(Ban Houakeang)**



## **Appendix**

List of interview reports by year, muong, and village/tasseng.

### **1950s**

#### **Muong Houn**

Muong Houn report  
Tanambeng  
Ban Nakhong  
Ban Navang

#### **Muong Nam Bac**

Ban Fa  
Ban Nangang

#### **Muong Pak Ou**

Ban Hatteu  
Ban Namphuan  
Ban Naxan

#### **Muong Xune**

Ban Simonkhoun  
Ban Lat En  
Ban Muong Xune  
Ban Simongkhoun

#### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Phasaneng  
Ban Mocyang

#### **Pakseng**

Ban Pakseng  
Ban Sopxang  
Ban Sae  
Ban Soptick  
Ban Houa Keng

### **1960**

#### **Muong Houn**

Muong Houn  
Ban Nakham  
Ban Nakhong

Ban Naxiengdy

#### **Muong Nam Bac**

Ban Tha Bou  
Ban Fa  
Ban Muong Nom  
Ban Nangang

#### **Muong Xune**

Ban Muong Xune

#### **Muong Xai**

Ban Phou Soung  
Ban Phatu  
Ban Phou Tho

#### **Muong Pakseng**

Ban Phi Phuan (Houa Keng)

#### **Muong Hiem**

Ban Kok Kieng

### **1961**

#### **Muong Houn**

Ban Muong Houn

#### **Muong Beng**

Ban Napagnai

#### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Phasaneng  
Ban Mockampang  
Ban Mocyang

#### **Muong Pakseng**

Ban Soptick

### **1962**

#### **Muong Houn**

Muong Houn  
Ban Nakham  
Tanambeng  
Ban Navang

Ban Naxiengdy  
Ban Chantai  
Ban Nakham  
Ban Houei Phra

#### **Muong Xune**

Ban Hatsua

#### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Phasaneng

#### **Muong Xai**

Ban Moctone  
Ban Houei Kaneng

#### **Muong Paktha**

Ban Sibounheuang  
Ban Paktha  
Ban Hatly

### **1963**

#### **Muong Beng**

Ban Tha Meuan

#### **Muong Xune**

Ban Leumtay

#### **Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Hinleck  
Ban Mockampang

#### **Muong Xai**

Ban Phatu

### **1964**

#### **Muong Houn**

Ban Naxiengdy  
Ban Simongkheun  
Ban Nakhong  
Ban Navang  
Ban Tai Noi  
Ban Chantai  
Ban Nakham

#### **Muong Xune**

Ban Laumtay

#### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Pakmeng

#### **Muong Xai**

Ban Phou Sung  
Ban Moctone

#### **Muong Paktha**

Ban Sibounheuang  
Ban Hatly

#### **Muong Pakbeng**

Ban Houei Soi  
Ban Luang Tong

### **1965**

#### **Muong Houn**

Ban Naxiengdy  
Ban Simongkheun  
Ban Nakham  
Ban Navang  
Ban Chantai  
Ban Houei Phra

#### **Muong Beng**

Ban Tha Meuan

#### **Muong Xune**

Ban Muong Xune  
Ban Pak Nga

#### **Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Hinleck  
Ban Houei Lananggnay

#### **Muong Xai**

Ban Phu Sung  
Ban Hua Houeiya  
Ban Houei Kaneng  
Ban Nam Xae

#### **Muong You**

Village not specified



**Muong Paktha**

Ban Sibounheuang

**1966****Muong Houn**

Ban Tanambeng

Ban Navang

Ban Naxiengdy

Ban Tay Noi

Ban Houei Phra

**Muong Nam Bac**

Ban Tha Bou

Ban Ly

Ban Fa

**Muong Xune**

Ban Simonkhoun

Ban Lat En

Ban Pak Nga

Ban Laumtay

**Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Hinleck

Ban Pakment

**Muong Xai**

Ban Phatu

Man Moctone

**Muong Pakseng**

Ban Pakseng

**Muong Paktha**

Ban Sibounheuang

**Muong Hiem**

Ban Men

**1967****Muong Houn**

Ban Nakhong

**Muong Nam Bac**

Ban Nangang

**Muong Pak Ou**

Ban Namphuan

**Muong Xune**

Ban Simonkhoun

Ban Pak Nga

Ban Laumtay

**Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Pakbeng

**Muong Xai**

Ban Nam Xae

Ban ua Houeiya

**Muong Pakseng**

Ban Soptick

**Muong Pakbeng**

Ban Houei Soy

Ban Luang Tong

**Muong Hiem**

Ban Pong Noc

**1968****Muong Houn**

Ban Nakham

Ban Navang

**Muong Nam Bac**

Ban Namheung

Ban Fa

Ban Muong Nom

Ban Nanyang

**Muong Pak Ou**

Ban Hatteu

Ban Hat Kho

Ban Phatung

**Muong Xune**

Ban Simonkhoun

Ban Xiengda

**Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Houei Lananggnay

**Muong Khay**

Ban Hay

**Muong Hiem**

Ban Nhot Ngo

Ban Kok Kieng

**1969**

**Muong Houn**

Ban Tanambeng

**Muong Beng**

Ban Tha Neuan

**Muong Pak Ou**

Ban Hatteu

Ban Namphuan

Ban Hat Kho

Ban Lathahae

Ban Phatung

**Muong Xune**

Ban Simonkhoun

Ban Xiengda

Ban Houei Peane

Ban Hatsua

Ban Laumtay

**Muong Xieng Ngeun**

Ban Houei Lanonggnay

Ban Mockampang

Ban Mocyang

**Muong You**

Village not specified

**Muong Khay**

Ban Hay

**Muong Hiem**

Ban Pong Noc

**Muong Pakseng**

Ban Soptick

**1970**

**Muong Pak Ou**

Ban Hatteu

Ban Naxan

**Muong Pakseng**

Ban Soptick

**Muong Paktha**

Ban Paktha

Ban Hatly

**Muong Hiem**

Ban Houei Chem

**1971**

**Muong Sopvi**

Ban Kok Van

Ban Bo Hai

**Muong Xai**

Ban Longya

**Muong Pak Ou**

Ban Xang Hai

Ban Le

**Muong Pakseng**

Ban Huakeang



Date: August 30, 2011

By: Fritz Benson

Subj: Refugee Movements in Eastern Luang Prabang - Western Sam Neua Provinces (September 1965 – January 1970)

The notes below are based on an interview with Ernest Kuhn in Vientiane (ca. 1970), who was responsible for this area as USAID Refugee Relief Operations Officer based in Sam Thong (LS-20).

In 1965-1966 an Operation Link-Up was initiated to connect Sam Neua and Nam Bac. During this period LS-178 was open in mid-1965 and LS-196 was open in early 1966.

On 1 January 1966 Lao Ta fell. Between January and March there was a see-saw battle between LS-169, LS-187, LS-188, and LS-138.

LS-217 was opened. LS-193 was opened in February 1966. Lao Theung and Hmong refugees began to move from LS-138 to LS-193 and along the Nam Ou river.

LS-193 was captured in May 1966. Sam Adams walked out.

LS-131, where Lao Theung and Hmong (90% of the population) were located, was part of Operation Link-Up.

LS-174 fell in January 1966 (Lao and Lao Theung refugees moved to LS-131).

LS-131 was attacked in late February and people moved to Ban Kok.

Ernest Kuhn left north-central Luang Prabang Province in March 1966.

### **Muong Hiem (1965-1966)**

Muong Hiem was still Neutral in 1965 under Souvanna Phouma's nephew and remained so until 1966 when the nephew was killed by his own troops.

Na Kang was attacked. When Na Kang fell in February 1966 between 3000 and 4000 Houei Muong refugees moved to LS-48A. Vang Pao pulled back to LS-48A (Muong Hiem) and the enemy started putting pressure on this site. On 14 March 1966 LS-48A fell. Three thousand to 4000 Houei Muong refugees had moved to LS-48A, which was captured by the PL in February.

The Neutralists captured Phou Kout.

Several thousand Muong Hiem refugees were evacuated by Caribou to LS-211, LS-33, and to Vang Vieng. Some refugees went to LS-50 (Phou Cum).

LS-219 was lost at the same time as Na Kang, and a big refugee concentration developed around LS-50.

Van Pao re-occupied Muong Hiem and Na Kang in May(?) 1966. Phou Cum never fell to the PL.

In the fall of 1966 a Caribou airstrip was planned at LS-50A (Phou Cum) but it was not built. Vang Pao didn't want to split up operations.

In LS-48A was reopened it was agreed that it would become a joint Vang Pao/FAR operation and the Neutralists would leave.

In late February/March 1966 Col. Chansome sent troops to reoccupy L-59 and many of the refugees (3000+) returned to Muong Hiem.

In late 1966 another airstrip was built near LS-33 (LS-233?). Some of the LS-48A refugees relocated there.

### **Western Luang Prabang Province**

LS-174 had been lost, but in 1965 sixty-six refugees scattered in Muong Houn valley.

Pak Beng was in RLG hands and troops were positioned up the Nam Beng valley. The Mekong River from Pak Beng was relatively secured by RLG.

In March 1966 the PL began to put pressure on Pakbeng.

The area south of LS-121 and West of LS-176 Lao Theung ADC troops were positioned and their dependents remained in the area.

Most of the Lao Theung in the LS-187 and LS-188 areas stayed put and didn't come out.

In the summer of 1966 Nam Bac was recaptured by RLG. However, this was the beginning of the end after Nam Bac other adjacent areas began to wither away.

### **Eastern Luang Prabang/Sam Neua Provinces**

Col. Phanh, the Chao Khoueng of Sam Neua, wanted to make LS-48A a base of operations for Sam Neua. Rather, LS-48A became a refugee center. Between late 1966 and early 1967 USAID sold buffalo in LS-48A. It was possible to walk to LS-36 from LS-48A. At the same time, one could walk from Sam Neua to Sam Thong (LS-20).

In December 1966 the RLG retook Muong Het in Sam Neua and 300-400 refugees were flown to LS-48A. then LS-48A began to stagnate.

In February 1966 when Na Kang fell 1400 Tai Phuan (Tasseng Tham La) villagers moved to the LS-48A area. After six to eight months, during which there was much sickness, the refugees walked ½ day to LS-48A.

When LS-36 fell in March 1969 these Tai Phuan did not escape—they were trapped and continued to be trapped in January 1970.



In January 1967 it was decided to push Operation Link-Up out of LS-178 and LS-196 and move west. Leaflets had been dropped to villagers in December 1966. The Operation captured villages along the Nam Seng river, such as Ban Sae. About 700 refugees from outlying areas gathered and a airstrip was built. Troops moved west to Phou Leng (Luang?), fighting all the way. The NVA, who had a supply route between the Nam Ou and Nam Seng rivers, were afraid they would lose it and they hit hard.

In April 1967 the enemy hit Ban Sae at 0600 hours and burned down the village (Ban Sae had been a trading center). Out of 600 people in Ban Sae about 200 managed to escape.

Before Ban Sae fell people were afraid and moved a half-day walk east of the village without the presence of troops. At 2100 hours there was an eclipse. The people who made this move didn't want to leave their village and returned after it fell. Between six and eight of the villagers were subsequently killed by the enemy. The RLG medic Tao Tao, who had previously been captured by the PL, put a grenade under his armpit and blew himself up because he feared the thought of further torture.

Ban Sae people who left went to LS-178 and LS-196 and ultimately relocated at LS-196.

In November 1967 FAR decided to launch an operation east of LS-196 and LS-178 on the upper reaches of Nam Xuang river (Pak Lao, Muoung Mouei) and captured 2000 Lao Theung (old and young only) and they were taken to LS-178 and LS-196, and were ultimately relocated at LS-196. They were later airlifted to Muong Hiem. Note: LS-178/LS-196 were originally populated mainly by Lao Theung.

An operation was also launched south of LS-196 and to the point where Nam Xuang starts flowing on an east-west axis. About 4000 to 5000 Lao Theung in the area ran off (Mok Chery and Mok Kha were Lao Theung areas).

FAR began to burn down rice fields, but stopped and refugees from LS-196 went to harvest.

There was an ongoing trickle of Lao Theung into LS-196 from the surrounding area.

By 1967 Vang Pao had troops positioned to Nam Ou from the East. These soldiers were pulled out when Nam Bac fell.

Not much happened in 1968. There were forays out of LS-196 and LS-178 by teams of soldiers. Ban Sae (LS-225) was "retaken" and many of the people who were lost (ca. 400) were picked up and left.

Vang Pao wanted to make friends with several thousand Hmong and Lao Theung located between the Nam Seng and Nam Ou rivers. However, Vang Pao's lieutenant had all of the villages bombed from the airbase at LS-36 and none of these people came out.

In 1970 both LS-196 and LS-178 fell.

In late 1965 and 1966 LS-184 sent troops north and east of LS-178 and brought out about 250 Hmong and Lao.

In January 1968, LS-48A was attacked from the north and northwest at night, and five soldiers and eight civilians were killed. At the time of the attack, Dr. Charles Weldon, medic Don Dougan and Pop Buell were present). B-40 mortar fire destroyed the ammo dump but did not burn down houses and the enemy made no attempt to capture people. Trails south along the river were not guarded by the enemy and people walked 5-6 hours south to LS-48 (Chong Ha). Two days later FAR reoccupied LS-48A (under the command of Col. Phanh) but civilians were not allowed to return. FAR looted everything. In February rice seed was choppered out to refugees.

In late 1968 Muong Hiem refugees had established themselves and a STOL airstrip was built along the river at \_\_?\_\_. This site was clobbered in early 1969(?) and the refugees moved to LS-219 and from there to LS-272 in May/June.

On one occasion when troops moved out of LS-196 a group of enemy Lao Theung moved 300-400 people out to Phone Saat south of LS-211.

Up to 1 March 1969 (Khun was on home leave March 3-31) RLG attempted to retake Phou Pha Thi (LS-85).

LS-36 (Na Khang) fell on 2-3 March 1969 and the enemy pushed back all people between Muong Hiem and Na Khang. LS-33 (San Pa Ka) was also lost.

The situation around LS-196 and LS-178 deteriorated in the summer and fall of 1969, and the enemy captured an outpost four kilometers south of LS-196.

**Airstrips cited:**

LS-33 – San Pa Ka (UH-0709)  
 LS-36 – Na Khang (UH-4110)  
 LS-48 – Chong Ha (UH-2817)  
 LS-48A – Muong Hiem (UH-3020)  
 LS-50 – Phu Cum (TH-0301)  
 LS-50A – Phu Cum (UH-0400)  
 L-59 – Muong Son (UH-2862)  
 LS-85 – Phou Pha Thi (UH-6860)  
 LS-121 – Lao Ta (TJ-1204)  
 LS-131 – Mok Lok (TH-3671)  
 LS-138 – Ban Chuk Chung (TJ-2302)  
 LS-169 – Ban Pha Thong (TJ-3307)  
 LS-174 – Boum Lao (QC-5021)  
 LS-176 – Nam Thuam (TH-2568)  
 LS-178 – Phou Saly (Th-9363)  
 LS-184 – Houei Tong Ko (UH-1853)  
 LS-187 – Ban “Y” (TJ-5015)  
 LS-188 – Xing Than (TJ-6324)  
 LS-193 – Mok Plai (TH-1889)  
 LS-196 – Houie Thong (TH-8750)  
 LS-211 – Phone Sai (TF-6299)



LS-217 – Yung Tuia (TJ-4421)  
LS-219 – Don's Strip (UH-2303)  
LS-225 – Ban Se (TH-7963)

By: F. Benson

Subject: Meo Affairs and Lao Theung Affairs in LP

Date: 2 September 2011

Ref: Compiled from F. Benson's notes dated around mid-1973

### **Meo Affairs**

On 26 March Capt. Herchay visited Luang Prabang and confidentially advised this officer of the future role of MR 2 in MR 1 Meo affairs. While Vang Pao has been vested by the King as leader of all Meo in Laos, during the course of the past year, beginning roughly with the fall of Kiokacham, Vang Pao has made an attempt to wean the LP Meo civilian affairs from Long Thieng (LS-20A) and re-orient them towards LP. This decision was made on the grounds that since these Meo are geographically located in Luang Prabang Province it is their obligation to politically and militarily work through and assist the LP administrative and military structure.

Initially, this policy met with difficulties due primarily to the fact that the Luang Prabang authorities were often not responsive or sympathetic to Meo problems and affairs. For a long time local Meo leaders continued to channel their problems through MR2, and a crisis involving the Xieng Khouang Meo resident in LP erupted in May-June 1972 when they accused both Vang Pao and Luang Prabang of abandoning them. In taking action to solve this problem Vang Pao offered the subject Meo an opportunity to move back to MR 2 and transportation, air and surface, was accordingly provided. While a majority of the Xieng Khouang Meo returned to MR 2, about one-third remained at Kio Nya. Those who elected to stay were cut off from rice eligibility rolls and, although the crisis lingered for some time it was gradually contained by a combination of efforts on the part of both MR 1 and MR2.

Maj. Vang Xang is, theoretically, the MR 2 liaison in MR 1. While Maj. Vang Xang is the zone 17/B (Pha Theung) commander, he is also (theoretically) responsible for zones 9 and 17/A, Phou Chia (LS-25, under command of Capt. Neng Tong Tao) and Phou Houa Mouei (LS-67, under the command of Maj. Vang Ching).

While these commanders are responsible for military affairs in their respective areas, naikongs have been assigned to govern civilian affairs and to generally serve as liaisons between the civilians and the military. The Pha Lang Mou – Pha Hung – Phou(?) area Meo are under five naikongs, theoretically headed by Xiong Gao Her (aka Blackbeard), Kamma Yang (Phou Kasak), Xong She Xiong (Kiokacham), Song Chong (Xieng Ngeun) and Thit Boun (Houei Coat).

These naikongs are salaried at 7000 kip/mo. Xiong Gao Her (Blackbeard) usually collects the money in Long Thieng and distributes it. Two naikongs are also located at Phou Chia (LS-25).

While Phou Chia (ADO) and Phou Houa Mouei (ADC) are the only effective military units in MR 1 (in addition to 17/B), there are local ADO units and their commanders at Kiokacham (Phia Moun Ni, 40+ men), Kio Nya (Vang Lu, 16 men) and Phou Kasak (Xeng Douan Vong, 44 men).



In Sayaboury Province there are local ADO at Nam Phouei (Zone 19/B). Two naikongs are located at Nam Phouei, and two are located at Nam Hia (Xha Teng and Vang Doua Lo).

Other naikongs (two, including Phia Kham) are located at Xieng Lom (LS-69A, Phia Fay) and Nam You (LS-118A, one Lao Theung, one Meo and one Yao).

In Luang Prabang Province the MR 2 structure has generally been characterized by a weak and ineffective leadership in the liaison office. Consequently, the civilian leadership has been fragmented, the only naikong who has frequent contact being Xiong Gao Her (Blackbeard). All other naikongs are relatively ineffective insofar as the MR 2 program is concerned, and seemingly have no interest in their monthly naikong salary.

It is likely that within the next few months MR 2 support to local Meo will be terminated and MR 1 will assume responsibility for the local military units and the Khoueng will assume complete responsibility for civilian administrative affairs.

For all intents and purposes, Zone 17/B has, during the course of the past year, worked for and has been supplied by MR 1, while Phou Chia (LS-25) and Phou Hua Mouei (LS-67) have served primarily as warlord armies and have not fitted into the MR 2 order of battle in recent years. Both of the latter have generally reported directly to Long Thieng (LS-20A). Administratively, the local Meo have generally begun to work more closely with LP officials during the course of the past year.

With the exception of Phou Chia and Phou Hua Mouei, all population groups have generally been directing their administrative problems to LP and the transition away from Long Thieng should therefore proceed relatively smoothly.

In the last analysis, the extent to which the transition is successful depends largely on the attitude of local officials. If problems arise which require liaison with MR 2 (as in the case of some 600 MR 2 Meo dependents) Chao Sinh will reportedly have an option to request a liaison officer (with the rank of colonel) from Long Thieng.

### **Lao Theung Affairs – MR 1**

[Sources of information include Xieng Man Noi.] There are nine Lao Theung tassengs (of both Phong Saly and Luang Prabang Provinces) which have, over the years, supplied most of the MR 1 SGU manpower:

<b><u>Tasseng</u></b>	<b><u>Muong</u></b>	<b><u>Province</u></b>	<b><u>Nai Tasseng</u></b>
Yang Teuei Neua	Khoua	Phong Saly	Thao Nyeun
Yang Teuei Tai	Khoua	Phong Saly	Thao Nouan
Oempleu	Khoua	Phong Saly	Thit Chandy
Chomvanh	Khoua	Phong Saly	Thao Tanh
Poung Yang	Khoua	Phong Saly	Thao Peun
Chomthanh	Khoua	Phong Saly	Thao Xang
Muong Heup	Heup	Luang Prabang	Thao Karong
Nam Heung	Heup	Luang Prabang	Thao Keng
Chak Chang	La	Luang Prabang	Thao Khamphan

Most of these tasseng are relatively recent creations, all the the Phong Saly Lao Theung having previously been a semi-autonomous administrative unit under Phia Kham. Upon his death, Phia Kham was replaced by Xieng Chanh, currently a national assemblyman. Xieng Chanh was formerly (1967-1970) FG-1 commander at Phou thong (LS-169).

Tasseng Nam Hung, which is located in Luang Prabang Province, was previously a Lao Theung unit under Phia Nam Hung (the greater TH-2599 area).

A third Lao Theung unit located in the TJ-1560 area was under Phia Sene Ngam. The population in this zone was never involved in the military program and, consequently, there are no refugees from this area.

Tasseng Chak Chang (formerly FG-2), located in the Ban Chuk Chung (LS-138) area, consisted of a "lassa" (16-30 villages) under the tasseng of Long Ya. Tasseng Chak Chang has no official RLG status now. Most of the Chak Chang refugees are presently located at Bouam Xieng.

Two tassengs, including Tasseng Ompleu (listed above) were established by SGU leaders in the area. The other tasseng, Tasseng Houei Nat (TG-4508 area), lies administratively within Muong Ngoi and has no official RLG status. Of the some 3800 Lao Theung in this tasseng, very few were able to escape.

The majority of the MR 1 Lao Theung are military dependents and recognize Xieng Man Noi (based in Luang Prabang) as their leader. Xieng Chanh has apparently lost favor amongst most of the Lao Theung. According to Thao Lu, Xiang Man Noi is consulted in Houei Phay regarding military affairs, while Xieng Chanh represents them in civil affairs. The only other notable Lao Theung leader from the region, Maj. Xieng Phanh (son of the former tasseng of Yang Teuei), has spent most of his time during the last few years at Long Thieng (LS-20A). By his own admission, Xieng Phanh does not retain much significance in civil/military affairs.

### **Lao Theung Affairs – MR 2**

The majority of the Muong Sai/Muong La Lao Theung were organized in Zones 19/A (under Pao Ly Moua) and 19/B (under Thao La). Zone 19/A Lao Theung were previously administratively under Phia Mai (Ling Lang area two hours walk from Lao Ta) and Phia Lay (Ban Phou area along the Nam Phak river north of Muong La). Both Phias were liaisons between their respective followers and the tasseng of Long Ya, and presently serve as a naikong at Houei Phay and a soldier in BG-202.

Zone 19/B troops were enlisted primarily from the Phia Nam Ma area (Nam Ma river enters Nam Phak at Muong La). Phia Nia Nam, previously a naikong (1968-69) and now a soldier at Nam You (LS-118A), replaced Phia Fai Mai as the Lao Theung leader in the area northwest of Muong La. Refugees from both groups are located at Nam Young in the Ban Houei Sai area, where they went via Nam Mo and the Nam Tha area.

Phia Pheng was the Lao Theung chief in the Pavie area southwest of Muong La. Phia Pheng has been replaced by Naikong Mai, and refugees from the area are located at Houei Phay.



Since the beginning of the war several tassengs have been created and the role of the Phia has assumed second place to that of the Tasseng in administrative matters. Of the four tassengs, two (Tasseng Pavie and Tasseng Fai Mai) were established by SGU commanders. The nai-tassengs, Thao Ay (Houei Phay) and Thao Kieo (Nam Young) were assigned by Pao Ly Moua and Thao Lu. The other two tassengs, Ling Lang and Ban Phou, are headed by Thao Lung and Thao Touei.

**Lao Theung Clans (Sings)** - compiled by Lith Benson on 4 June 1973.

The leaders listed below are [believed to be] located in Houei Phay.

**Clan Leader**

Thao Ly Vitsada  
Thao Pheng  
Thao Ai  
Yai Yuong  
Thao Lao  
Thao Keo  
Thao Sing  
Thao Yai Souang  
Sao Oune  
Thao Loune  
Thao Chanh  
Thao Sai  
Sao Ko  
unknown  
unknown

**Clan**

Sing Kot  
Sing Seua  
Sing Nene Nak  
Sing Nok Sonehok  
Sing Nou Pith  
Sing Nok Houng  
Sing Nok Vak  
Sing Nok Tang Lo  
Sing Not Chik  
Sing Nok Chatnam  
Sing Hene Mong  
Sing Nok Chi Lene  
Sing Nok lang  
Sing Nok Kok Kham  
Sing Ka Thing

**Phia Chan (LS-155)** – Report by F. Benson dated May 1973

During the course of the past month or so (and on several occasions during the past eight months) Col. Hatsady (Xieng Lom, LS-69A) and Meo at Phia Chan have been at odds. The Meo leader, Phia Chan, was born in Sam Neua (Houei Thong Kho) and moved to Xieng Khouang. From there he moved to Phu Hua Moui (LS-67) and then to Phia Chan (LS-155). Phia Chan Meo belonged to a MR 2 team, but Hatsady wants them to work with him on a more regular basis out of Xieng Lom (LS-69A). Hatsady has charged the LS-155 (PB-8762) Meo with the following:

- 1) The fact that some 20 families moved from LS-155 into Thailand indicates lack of control over civilians in the area.
- 2) Request for ammunition followed a report by the Meo of 200 enemy in an adjacent area to the west. Hatsady says a team proved the report to be false.
- 3) Meo won't let LS-69A register serial numbers of weapons.
- 4) Strength of Meo troops inflated by about 100%.

Hatsady says complaints by the Meo have reached the Prime Minister through Vang Pao, and he is quite disturbed by this action.

After a visit by Sisouk, etc., troops at LS-69A invited LS-155 team leader to drink with them. They then beat him up, according to Lao Chu (Phou Kong leader, LS-42 – QB-4849), to gain vengeance for filing complaints to Vang Pao. The team commander has had to leave the area and go to Long Thieng (LS-20A) because of fear for his life. On 16 May Vang Pao visited LS-69A and LS-155, presumably in connection with this problem.

The LS-42 Meo want to have Col. Chanpheng remain as chief in LS-69A because he is more sympathetic to ethnics. Hatsady has only given them trouble (e.g. issues only half of requisitions, threatened to jail the Nong Luang (LS-322, QV-2768) commander if he could not account for all of his troops, etc.).

Xieng Man Noi claims both Col. Hatsady and General C.S. are not sympathetic to the ethnic cause.

Note: Naikongs at Phu Houa Mouei (LS-67, referenced above) are Chia Va, Xong Lo Tao, and Bo Long Ly.



From: F. Benson

Subject: PL Activity in Luang Prabang in 1973 (Jan-May) Leading up to and Following

The Agreement of 21 February 1973 on the restoration of peace and national concord in Laos

Ref: Copies of notes written by F. Benson in Luang Prabang in 1973

Date: 2 September 2011

Contents consist of six handwritten pages attached herewith.

1973

Phou Khoun

on 1/3/73 P.L. Mr Phou Khoun officer called tass/namban to attend pol. tmy at B. Nong Op (TG 270730) for 45 days beginning on 15 Apr. attended by TASS Dene Khoun, Tass Samthay, Tass Phou Fa, Tass My You, Tass Paksa, Eight namban fm Paksa - Houei Kyp, Phou Sa Ngoi, Houei Khouny, B. Longkany, Longkany, Phangakany, Houei Thoun, Houei Tang,

CUNK

- 1) meeting w/15 RL. fm Phasok SG 9179 w/ Sgt Somay BGR-131. agreed no shoot & free movement troops/civilians
- 2) 22 Apr PL Co 50 men to Vill # 10 (SG 9676) & left to direction B. Nam Chan SG 9873
- 3) 26 Apr GRL & Khamsay (my Khamsay) to Houei Ke chuan and RON.

Pak Nuan

May Suong Demand Officer

25 million kyp to buy rice Long Mat area - 1000MT  
rice & 800 katang paddy - for rep during rainy  
Season = Say at Houa Khoun Luang (south  
Pak 130?)



+ my at my Sai

- RL supply Pak Moun receive 25 million Kip to by me & Supasabes.
- additional 30 million received
- 1 Kalong use 1500 kip.

19 Apr 18 boys Pak Moun escorted Dhou Sam Phom

29 " 40 Boys from B. Na Toung (QA 8782), Na Khum (QA 8272)

to Pak Moun → Pak Hao → Sam Phom

Early Apr - May Suong send 4 girls Thadema area to my Sai.

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my Kheng

- my 40 office move to QB 936914 B. Mo Houei Sai Kheng. CM is Nai Sen Tam, Deputy Pho Rhe, 2 assist Tho Sy, Boua Phom
- Flag at Na Kheng (2 prop. sessions 30<sup>th</sup> & 2 May),
  - pass will be issued by meubam & tam. = no pass no travel. check point Na Kheng
  - Far must set up check point at Salenan.

1473

## Pak Ou

- 1) On 2 Apr. PL from Vang Khan say at Khue Kham that civilians can travel to Vang Khan. Khue Kham PL say no can do.
- 2) clash 5 Apr. B1 220 at TH 111205 (7W1A, 5W1A)
- 3) Flang via TH 1409
- 4) Move flang from Phone Eom Sand Island <sup>17 Apr.</sup> so as not to interfere with religious ceremony at Pak Ou
- 5) 20 Apr PL troops assigned Ngai Hai, Khue Phon, Pathan go to Hat Kham for New Year
- 6) En building Road Bo He to B. See?
- 7) 2 May PL at Kham Luang (TH 2119) say no villagers should move north.
- 8) 7 May 15/84 Ngai Hai & 5/28 Khue Phon permitted to go to original villages for Xreng Mene.

## Xy Nguyen

- 1) 3 Apr - CU-163 link up w/ CU-165 to swap Bonam Oh, Houei Fay, H. ang area 5 days
- 2) On 8 Apr 30 PL to Souan Luang <sup>by village</sup> (TG 070920) - 5 capture Nang Phon + 5 in her family to Phulern area (TG 1389)
- 3) 20 PL to H. See (TG 109968) 8 APR say if no agreement have 4 co. to move in Det Pak Bue & 1696 - warn people not to go to hilltops because of mines.
- 4) 6 Apr 24th Khoueng to H. Yen Dm Rha to meet w/ Mai-Thut Phonai and people of Bonam Oh re: agreement not to shoot. Say all right Banke Namkhem their.
- 5) Firefight - 10 Apr TG 093916
- 6) ~~25 Apr 40 en~~

X9 Ngam

6) 14 Apr en. to X9 km / B. Souan area dist. leaflets  
claim area theirs.

7) 6 May 15 RL. to B. Houei Se (TG 1296)  
to buy goods. Villagers won't sell, RL. said  
would sell people livestock.

8) <sup>8 May</sup> BU-16 sent patrol to investigate H. Sae incident  
clashed w/en.

9) ~~8~~ May BU-15 move from Saluan to B. Som / B. Nam.

Syby

Check point est by eny at Na Karaney area near  
Phou Das.



1973 ?

- 13 May — 2 Ka. Rice Ne Lia (PB 9765)  
1 " Rice Houay Mei (SG 9157)
- 2 May — Meeting w/ PL Xq Lam (40 men <sup>civ.</sup> B. Cade 12 Bug)  
12 Bug say order work right bank PL shouldn't interfere  
Fm 15 May no civ. can go to H. ang (TG 1397)  
and Houay Se (TG 1299) because PL camp
- 17 May 5 PL near Hat Khany (TH 185187) told vill.  
only Nam & many area no agreement bet. PAK & PL.  
If agreement PL will bring buff & 100,000 Kip to celebrate  
PL concerned about refs — after agreement, civ-  
can travel freely in area
- 17 May BV-16 crash TG 1091
- 14 May Lat Khom 1 Co PL fm B. Thim (My Nga) RC 1041 → Lat Kh.  
Khoe Luang RC 0917 & B. Thone RC 0915
- 18 May 80 PL fm Phou Ode May (civ PB 8620) to B. Kang  
& B. Yao (vic PB 7522)
- 21 May B1-17 FAN & Phou Savang & B. Le vill. went to meet  
PL at Pak Houay Tam (TH 185186)
- " B1-224 seeds & vill Bo He, Pak Pa meet PL north Bo He
- 10 May 407th (12 PL) move fm H. Pong (TG 1888) & replace  
24th Khomay at Pak Bore who go Sopvi for tung.
- 18 May 3 vill. Hatten go to L. P.
- 19 May Plat. Co 78 crash & Km east post. at QV 2967)
- 18 May BGR 132 crash vic RB 1298  
Houay Khom (SH 8915)  
Khoe Luang (RC -1017) PL. CP

EN = ENEMY

- 20 May - 40 P.L. from Hala Keng (TH 2119) to Keng Luang & tell  
will want to meet FAR - meeting to be on 25 May  
at Dene Keng (TH 188186) w/each side send  
5 men
- 21 May En. Plat operations, SH 9216 area.
- 25 May Many pass Phou Khoun area to begin trading  
goods at Pakha - 500 bags salt will be distributed
- 19 May 5 ka. rice Thakene (RB 1486); 1 ka Pong Nhouang (569988)
- 20 May PL-FAR decide Bo He 1) w. can travel if have pass issued  
by PL or FAR, no shooting
- En operating via Senang (566740)
- En to Na Keng (RB 1099) for prep.
- 40 PL from Long Luat (568976) to get rice RB 0976
- 22 May ✓ En. tell FAR at H. Khue to move out,
- 17 May PL from Na Kheng (RB 0895) to B. ang (RC 0800)
- 26 May clash vic TH 168028
- 26 May 40 PL from Phou Pa & H. Su Ngem (RB 7134) & Na Kuang (RB 8839)
- 25 May PL escort air. taking rice for sale to Keng Khone ref of  
Pak Hengay Khoun (SH 8915) - official PL price 640 kip/ka.
- 24 May 6 P.L. set up checkpoint Pak Hengay Pong (TH 0323) if  
go to Lathan must have pass from point.
- 23 May CV-152/BV-15 go from H. Khue to H. Y.
- 26 May PL collect rice from vill at H. ang
- 26 May 2 co. ~~Dellamet~~ from TG-1277 to TG 0975; from  
TG 1279 to TG 1483.
- 31 May clash TG 100925
- 29 May 10 P.L. to B. Sonan (TG 0893) send letter to  
Col Humphrey in order to have talk & understanding