



# LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## MR 1 timeline of refugee movements. 1965/1971

[s.l.]: [s.n.], 1965/1971

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/UUF3DZOKQXHDD8Q>

This material may be protected by copyright law (Title 17, US Code).

For information on re-use see:

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.



CHRONOLOGY OF REFUGEE MOVEMENTS

1967 - for Luang Prabang Province

August 14                      Between 8000 and 10,000 inhabitants in the Nam Bac vally in addition to the 1,000 refugees (mostly from the north and west of Nam Bac).

August 17                      775 refugees at Nam Bac in village of Ban Li. Refugees are Lao from east of Nam Ou. In light of deteriorating security, should be moved following harvest, Muong Nane and Xieng Ngeun possible relocation areas.

                                 200 Sop Trick refugees now in LP., another 800 are at Pak Mong at confluence of Nam Suong with Mekong

December 11                    During November the following refugee moves reported:

                                 150 Khamu from Sop Vi - Ban Pak Nga area to Ban Kok Vane (TH-1708). Move after FAR operation. May go back in 3-4 months.

                                 50 Khamu reportedly come into Ban Coc, M. Ngoi area (TH-2643)

December 11                    1800 Meo refugee from LS-186 to Nam Pouy. Left 200 horses at LS-186.

-1968-

March                          Rice delivery by surface:

                                 Bouam Xieng (Ref) Houei Yo )Deps) ca 1300  
                                 Nam Bac (Ref)  
                                 Xieng Lom (Xieng Ngeun)  
                                 Hansens village fire victims  
                                 Hong Sa  
                                 Pak Song (Ref)

January 4                      1,000 Lao Theung in Pak Ngeun area possible candidates for relocation on Nam Tan project (Pak Ngeun due east of Sayaboury)

                                 113 Lao Theung from Pak Phi to Pak Ngeun to join the 340 who have settled there since 1966. May go to Nam Tan.

                                 Most of Pak Seng population to Sop Trick and are now at Ban Pak Moun

January 23                      Nam Bac defeated during the month. 300 refugees have left Nam Bac by chopper.



March 6

Surface delivery!  
Nam Bac refugees  
Phu Phathung refugees  
LS-186 Yao refugee at Nam Pouy  
Transiting refugees in LP.  
Houei Yoe deps  
Hansens refugees  
Hong Sa refugees  
Ban Vanna Seng  
Pak Seng refugees

May 9

Surface delivery:  
Bouam Xieng (Ref from Nam Bac, LS-187,  
LS-217, LS-169)-350  
Ban Dan Noi and Na Sang (Nam Bac refugees)  
Ban Pak Mout (Pak Seng refugees)-1300  
Phou Dam and Houei Yo deps.  
Xieng Lom (Phou Pha Theung refugees) - 300  
Ban Kheng Khan (near Pak Beng on Mekong)  
Ban En - Xieng Ngeun Hansen's village  
Ban Vanna Seng  
Ban Kok (M. Ngoi refugees)

May 28

Breakdown totals:  
Deps - 2,370  
Refs - 3,610

Refugees:  
Ban Bak Mout/Pakseng -1,300  
Xieng Lom/Phou Pha Theung - 300  
Bouam Xieng/Nam Bac - 350  
M. Name/ Ban Fai - 290  
Ban Sankhalock/M. Khay - 310  
Hong Sa - 230  
Ban Kheng Khan (QB-5294) - 90  
Pak Beng - 180  
Ban Dan Noi/B. Nan Seng - 560

Total: 3,610

June 7

May surface delivery:  
Nam Bac refugees at Ban Dan Noi, Na Sang and  
Bouam Xieng.

M. Khoua refugee at Bouam Xieng  
M. Ngoi deps at B. Kok.

June 13

Enemy due north of Pakbeng and about ready to take  
over can expect to feed 300 people

T-28 support brought 28/93 LT. into B. Bo (QC-7700)

Potential 4,000 refugees in FG areas who want to come out.

Can expect 600 - 700 refugees in next 3 months, not including 3,000 from FG's

September 9

17/320 Leu from B. Coc, Pak Ou.

150 Meo from Phou Kho (RC-0627) to Phou Dam

September 17

210 Meo and Lao refugees at FG-17 B (TG-1696)

300 LT. reportedly at B. Bo and B. Khean Khan along Mekong north of Hong Sa.

100 LT. refugees at B. Pak Bac located south of Xieng Ngeun on Nam Kane.

BREAKDOWN:

FG- I (TJ-4113) - 200 deps  
FG 3 (TH-1941) - 1-- deps - 340 refs  
FG 7 (TJ-5013) - 400 deps  
FG 8 (TJ-3912) - 200 deps  
FG 10 (TH-0668) - 100 deps - 500 refs  
FG 17B (TG-1696) - 300 deps - 200 refs  
FG 17C (LS-42) - 300 deps  
FG 19A (RC-1119) - 200 deps

Total 1500 deps - 540 refs.

New Ref:

68/340 LT. from FG 3 (TH-1941) to FG 3.  
24/150 Meo from Phou Kho (RC-0627) choppered to Phou Dam. Most of people at Phou Kho went with enemu.

FG 10 (TH-0669) reports 540 LT. ref at TH-0075

Ban Coc - Pak Ou ref arrived at B. Suan (10 Km north of LP. on Mekong). on Sept 9-10 B. Coc fell and 373 people to B. Suan. More on the way.

November 6

Breakdown surface at Xieng Ngeun are B. Pak Bac and Kok Van Na Tan ref.  
at M. Khay are San Ka Lock ref.  
M. Ngoi ref at B. Kok.  
M. Khoun, Nam Bac, M. Ski and M. Ngoi deps at Bouam Xieng

Deps at Houei Yo  
~~by~~ Readown - drops

FG-1 (TJ-4113) - 200 deps - 435 refs.



FG 2 (TJ-2001) - 478 deps  
FG 3 (TJ-2502) - 300 deps  
FG 7 (TJ-5013) - 400 deps - 200 refs  
FG 8 (TJ-3912) - 200 deps - 200 refs  
FG 10 (TH-0761) - 100 deps - 540 refs  
FG 17B (TG-1492) - 300 deps - 200 refs  
FG 17C (LS-42) - 200 deps  
FG 19A (LS-256) - 200 deps - 200 refs.

December 5

B.H.S. Official have agreed to movement of 42/245  
M. Sai Meo from Nam Ngyung (BHS) to Sayaboury

Movement of ~~122~~ 1200-1500 Meo from Phou Dam to Sayabour  
agreed upon by Chao Khoueng Luang Prabang  
27/108 LT. from Phou Vay Som Gnoi area to Phou Na Wang  
(QC-9904) area east of LP with FG-19A.

26/141 Meo moved from LS-187 to LS-256

14/85 M. Sai Meo at LS-186 last week, but 186 now bad.

C.M. Beng reports 24/120

Situation in BHS stable - 2000 people in Nam Tha  
valley area (Na Le) request approval to move to  
LS-25, but turned down.

Situation in northern LP. deteriorating. The PL  
in M. Sing area said they would round up all the  
people in outlying areas and take them to M. Sai.  
The people all moved to  
FG 1D (TH-0661) - 1200 ref - and FG 2 (TJ-2501) - 1800  
ref. Both positions have been knocked out. Situation  
same in other areas.

#### Summary of 1968

After fall of Nam Bac in mid January, security  
situation steadily deteriorated in LP.  
positions and STOL Strips abandoned-

TJ-5315  
TJ-5813  
LS-234  
LS-217  
LS-187  
LS-186

Hong Sa attacked

Only 350 out of 5000 Nam Bac people came out.  
1800 Meo and Khamu forced out of RD 0315 to BHS.

Presently supporting 10,000 dep/ref

January 23

Refugee Sites in Houa Khong

LS-4	LS-162	LS-118A
LS-93	LS-194	LS-168
LS-109	L -25	LS-145
LS-125	L -54	LS-151
LS-135	L - 23	LS-259
LS-152	Ban Kuang Strip	LS-250
LS-150	LS-209	LS-142
LS-148	LS-216	LS
LS-149	LS-118	

Sayaboury

LS-42	LS-256
LS-69A	LS-62
LS-69B	LS-96
LS-124	LS-177
LS-264	LS-155
LS-67	

January 29

DZ's in LP Project area

TJ-3806	- 663 people
TJ-4107	- 183 "
TJ-4208	- 99 "
TJ-3401	- 99 "
TJ- 3809	- 89 "
TJ-2508	- 1,611 "
TH-2388	- 835 "
TH-2087	- 40 "
TJ-4211	- 1,920 "
TJ-4916	- 104 "
TJ-5016	- 104 "
TJ-4016	- 465 "
TJ-5225	- 50 "
TJ-3622	- 110 "
TJ-4018	- 62 "
TJ-2315	- 1,949 "
TH-1941	- 624 "
TH-0482	- 514 "
WH-2174	- 60 "
TJ-1913	- 28 "
TJ-3221	- 104 "
TJ-3812	- 1,271 "
TJ-3015	- 104 "
TJ-4600	- 635 "
TJ-4704	- 104 "
TJ-1262	- 22 "
TJ-0165	- 21 "



TJ-

TJ-4133 - 18 People  
 TJ-3028 - 26 "  
 TH-4303 - 20 "  
 TJ-4018 - 16 "  
 SJ-9743 - 24 "  
 TH-2283 - 21 "  
 TJ-4018 - 19 "  
 TH-1498 - 21 "  
 TJ-3402 - 22 "  
 TH-9785 - 22 "

March 11

127/700 Meo from B. Song Cha (LS-137) area to Pak Ou, will go to Kio Nga.

March 17

Phou Dam

Are from M. Shi area. When things got bad at M. Shi, moved to LS-121 area, Lao Ta, when 121 fell in 1965, went to LS-137, LS-193, LS-138, LS-131 and LS-176 areas, when these areas fell, left M. Shi area completely and went to LP. went LS-256 and from there to Nam Phouy.

After fall of Nam Bac etc, approx. 26,000 ref. and deps requested evacuation, LT. and Meo. Problems arose when 225 Meo rep moved to LS-L56 from LS-187

Ban Song Cha (TH-1778)

Movement of rep to Kio Nga (40 Km on RLG 13 past Xiang Ngeun)

150/1200 Meo came into FG 10 (TH-0178) ~~area~~ area last week, but then left due to enemy presence. Travelled from B. Song Cha to Long Chok (TH-0178) then south to B. Thong, Khok Nang and B. Mok Muang, then to B. Pak Houei Luang on Nam Ou, south of B. Kok. two weeks ago the C.M. of Muong Sung was Phia Ka Moun, an old Nai Khong from Pak Seng, who had just been made C.M. of a new Muong, along with the C.M. of M. Sop Vie (Also a new Muong. These people now total ~~127~~ 127/700. It seems that when they started out they met some enemy mines on the trail and about 10 people were killed. At this point some 300 people returned to FG 10.

March 28

In TV-2913 to Nam Bac north to Dien ~~Bien~~ Bien Phu are approx. 7000-10,000 people. This area may soon be under the gun.

March 31

Situation in northern LP. not to good. Supporting 10,000 deps and ref in each of 12 FG positions.

Lao Ta fell last week 800 ref there still unacct. for

April 11

Ref coming from northern LP will probable come to TH-2696.

June 10

Nam Ou area

Hat Kham (TH-0923) into on May 18. BV 15 and 13 want to retake area up to Pha Theung (TH-3827) are presently 150-200 families in Pak Ou B. Thin Hong (TH-0815) and B. Xanghai area waiting to come out.

June 11

New ref from north of Pak Ou

B. Hat Kho - 59/358

B. Hat Kham )

B. Vang Le ) = 321/1,679

B. Somsanouk)

Hat Kho ~~1/2~~ hit by 28's; other 3 villages moved out by themselves

June 18

LS-186 and LS-138 strips have been resecured.

July 16

IS-138 attacked on July 9 and troops retreated



## CHRONOLOGY OF REFUGEE MOVEMENTS SAYABOURY 1968

January	1900 refugees now at Nam Phouy - total 320 families (65 are Yao)
February 15	9 Yao and Meo families (40 people) transported by barge from LP to Thadeua
March 5	14/65 LP refugees by barge to Nam Tan
March 14	Meo 12/55
March 25	43/297 Meo from Tong Tao (LS-186) and Ya Pow left Nam Pouy
April	24/150 Mok Play Meo refugees return to Phou Dam (LS-256) from Nam Pouy. new total - 273/1543 Meo
October	21/130 Meo refugees from Hong So arrive Nam Hia
November	Total Nam Phoui 285/1446 Nam Hia 21/130 Nam Tan Lateral two 48/256 (Lao, Laotheung, Thai Dam).

## CHRONOLOGY OF REFUGEES MOVEMENTS (1969)

August (?)	15/80 Pai to M. Pheung
Total 138 deaths at Nam Phoung due to sickness since their arrived	total Nam Phoui 242/1260 Nam Hia 19/128 (Lao) Nam Pang 84/442 (phone Savan) M. Phieng 15/80
September	Refugees in Hong Sa 24/124 Yao from B. Houei Soi, Tasseng Phousung, M. Pakbeng to B. Phone Sai, Hongsa, on 5/20/69  17/58 Yao from Same village arrive 9/9/69 1/6 Lao from B. Nale, Tasseng Le, M. Hongsa to B. Phone Xai, Hongsa arrive 9/9/69 1a/40 Lao theung from B. Phousung, M. Pak Beng to B. Ngai, Tasseng Le, Hongsa arrive on 5/20/69.  18/76 Lao theing from B. Long Sine, Tasseng Pju Sung, M. Pakbeng to Ban Ngai, hongsa, on 5/20/69. 13/64 Lao theing from B. Chomteng Noi, Tasseng Phou Sung, M. Pakbeng to B. Sibounheuang, Tasseng Le, Hong sa on 5/20/69 31/127 (M. Houm) Lao from B. Houei Jai, Tasseng

Phousung, M. Pakbeng to B. Thien, Hongsa on 5/14/69  
5/14/69

September 25

New refugees at Phou Kong (LS-42) from;  
10/64 from B. Houei Saka. and 11/73 from  
B. Phai & B. Nam Le Tasseng Pong Nha, SYBY

11/11/

4

Also, on Sept 10 group of Meo refugees  
from Nam Luak, Taseng Pong Nha, M. Hongsa  
arrive LS-42 men falk returned to Nam Luak to  
get livestock etc. but unable to return because of PL.

November 16-17

68/353 Phai from B. Vang Pen B. Houei Ngeem to  
B. Naluak.

19/147 Meo from Long Cheing to Nam Hia

March 4

5/40 from Koun Xong March 8 328 from B. Na Ven  
and Khoun Pouie

March 13

with fall of M. Ngeun (700 houses 8,000 unhabitants)  
about 1380 people fled

April 30

Break down of refugees: B. Pong Mee 392 Phai  
M. Pheing 87 Phai  
Phonsawan 581 Leu & Thai Dam  
Nam Hia 190 Meo  
Pak Tan 348 Phai  
Na Khem 408 Phai

Total: 2006



LUANG PRABANG

April 66 LS-121 15,000 Refs.

LS-169 Arr. 6,000

LS-176 5,000

Aug 67 Nam Bac 775 at B. Li (8-10,000 Inhabitansts  
in valey)

Dec 67 1,800 Meo & Yao From LS-186 yo Nam Phouei

Jan 68 1,200 Refugees at Nam Bac

May 68 5,980 dep. Refs.

Refs. Ban Pak Mout/Pak Seng	1,300
Ban Xieng/Nam Bac	350
Muong Nane/Ban Fai	290
Ban San Kha Lock/Muong Khay	310
Hong Sa	230
Kheng Khen	90
Pak Beng	150
Ban Dan Noi/Ban Nan Seng	<u>540</u>
	3,610

1968

LS-234

LS-217

LS-187

LS-186

= Lost

1969

July 16 - LS-138 Hit.

10 December Confusion exists in Pak Ou - Khon Khien area; although many people would like to move, situation under control.

17 December 57/283 refugees moved from Khon Khien to TH-0307; no further support until return.

13 December 666 old refugee - Lt. from Mok Ho - moved from Houei Kho (TH-0918) to Khon Khien (TH-0916).

- 1971 -  
+++++

14 January 31 refugees from Ban Na San, relocated at Khon Khien, have gone to L-25 on commercial aircraft.

44 families from Mok Ho, relocated at Houei Kho, moved to Houei Khot area (TG-0385)

4 February "Considerable" movement due to enemy action N&E of LP. no figures yet.

8 February Refugees from Pak Ou and Nam Souang areas That have moved:

Ban Dan TH-100082)

90 refugee from Pha Theung (TH-090160)

60 refugee from Houei Kho (TH-090180)

180 refugee from Phon Ngan (TH-138092)

120 refugees from Pak Po (TH-148092)

Ban Don Cho (TH-078059)

168 refugees from Houei Kho (TH-090180)

Ban Pha-0 (TH-098070)

180 refugees from Hat Kho (TH-090160)

And additional 800-1000 refugees mainly from Houei Kho & Lat Han (TH-000230) living with relatives in LP.

60% of above refugees on rice rolls already.

13 February Refugees from Nam Suang area to be added to rice lists:

39/179 from Ban Thin to Phao/Muong Kham

6/38 from Houei Chem to Ban Dan

10/54 from Pak Pa Kao to Ban Dan

17/90 from Bouam Mo to Ban Dan

10/37 from Tha Bo to Ban Dan

3/18 from Ban Kho to Ban Dan

1/6 from Ban Sieo to Ban Phao

33/175 from Phone Savang to Phou Mouat

31/165 from Phone Ngam to Ban Dan

14/68 from Vang Le to Ban Suan

7/32 from Pung Poui to Ban Dan Noi

26/129 from Ban Louane to Ban Nong Sai



25 February

28/116 Lao from Ban Le (TH-173162) to Pak Suang (TH-120104) escape from NVA occupied village.

LS-213 lost 2000 refugees believed trapped; ca. 8000 refugees that area moving from LS-170 to road.

27 February

4000 XK. refugees at LS-4; no movement towards Xieng Nguen or LP; 15 taxi loads moved south.

at 1400 HRS 26 commercial trucks and taxis on road bet. Pha Keng (TG-3060) and LS-4 carrying refugees to LS-4.

Ca. 500 people walking;  
Ca. 2000 at Pha Keng.

Ca. 2000 people on trail bet LS-170 and Pha Keng.

LS-170 population and XK. refugees en route to LS-4. Ca. 1000 indigenous LT. remaining at LS-170 airstrip.

Enemy reportedly cut path between LS-170 and LS-213 on 2/25. Villages around LS-213 deserted. No one on trail bet. LS-213 and LS-170. Location of 2000 indigenous pop. and XK. refugees at LS-213 unknown.

Path bet. Oug. home of XK. refugees and their dest. On 2/24 1800 XK. Lao refugees from Muong You reportedly at Sop Toune. Today village deserted and location of refugee & finding pop. unknown.

28 February

600 + Meo at Xieng Ngeun, of this no; Ca. 500 will return to LS-4

8000 refugees at LS-4; 5000 of this no. XK. refugees who will move to LS-25. Bal. 3000 LP. refugees will go to Kio Nja.

3 March

125/1207 refugees at LS-4 and Houei Phat from LS-170, LS-213 and Pha Sa Nin, moved at 0700 on 2/27.

5 March

Ca. 500 refugees at LS-4 from LS-170 and Ban Pha Keng (TG-3458)

Ca. 1000 Meo & LT. in Pha Keng area.

AT LS-25 Ca. 2000 Meo from Phou So (LS-57), LS-102, LS-312 & LS-16.

On road bet. LS-4 and Xieng Ngeun are Ca. 3000 Muong Yon Lao, & Meo & LT. from some areas as refugees at LS-25, will probably stay in place for a winter.

12 March 1500 LS-213/LS-170 refugees at Xieng Ngeun.  
1500 LS-170 refugees at Houei Phat (TG-0970)  
1500 Nam Suang refugees scattered along Mekong  
South of Pak Suang - deciding now where to move.

15 March Refugees who moved into Muong Met: 85/412 from Ban  
Nam Feuang.  
10/80 from Ban Set.

19 March 6/30 from (TH-1818) area to Pak Souang (TH-1210).

22 March 5000 refugees from Lat Han, Houei Yo & Khone Khian  
at Thine Hong (TH-1015); are unable to proceed  
further - 3 boats ambushed.  
2000 refugees at Ban Done (TH-1108) from Pak Suang  
and Houei Sene.  
1000 refugees in LP. from satellite areas - are  
grouped at sports field.

23 March Ca. 7000 refugees moving overland from Thine Hong  
(TH-1015) & Ban Dane (TH-1109) toward LP.  
LS-256 hit.  
Friendlies withdraw from Ban Done Cho (TH-0806)  
& holding line Ca 2 Km from L-54 strip.  
Friendlies re-enters Ban Pik Nyai (TH-1103).

24 March ORA/SW will support:  
1 - Villages on E. Bank of Mekong from Ban Don Cho  
(TH-0604) up river.  
2 - Villages on W. Bank of Mekong from Ban Don  
(TH-1109) up river.  
3 - Villages on Nam Suang  
4 - Village of Houei Yo (TH-0520)  
People from immediate LP area who have moved into  
city proper but can return to their homes during  
the day will not be supported.  
Rep. will be temporarily housed in groupe scolaires  
in LP area:  
LP - Tasseng Pak Ou  
Fa Ngeum - Tasseng Pha Khom  
Phone Kham - Tasseng Lat Han  
Si Than - Tasseng Pak Souang  
Ban Khoi - Mok Ho (L/P) (LT)  
Sang Kalok - Houei Yo (LT)  
Aphai - Refugees from immediate LP area.

are currently 2000 refugees in ~~10~~ LP. proper;  
Est. 5000-7000 expected to arr. within next few days.

25 March

Old & new refugees coming into LP area

<u>From</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>Old</u>	<u>New</u>
LS-256	Phu Luang	1500 Meo	-
Houei Yo	LP&X. Mene	2000 LT.	-
Tass. Pak Ou	LP.	-	3000 Lao
Tass. Pha Khom	LP.Fa Ngeun Sch	-	500 Lao
Ban Don Cho	-	-	-
Tass. Lat Han	LP Phone Kham Sch-	-	1800 Lao
Tass. Pak Soung	LP Sithan Sch.	1000 Lao	1000 Lao
Mok Ho (TH Kho)	LP B. Koi Sch	666 LT	-
Ref. frm. immediate	LP Aphai Sch	-	2000 Lao
<b>TOTAL:</b>		5,166 old	8,300 new.

901 new refugees from LS-213 area arr. Xieng Ngeun; will move to Houei Khot South of Xieng Ngeun.

27 March

44/204 LT. original from Mok Ho (TH-1039) to Xieng Mene (TH-0002).

28 March

360/1865 LT. from Houei Yo (TH-05020) to Xieng Mene.  
Ref. at Xieng Mene (TH-0003):

Houei Yo (LT) - 1865  
Mok Ho (LT) - 250  
LS-256 (Meo) - 1250  
Phou Na Vang (Meo) - 250

TOTAL: 3,615

Houei Yo & Phou Dam refugees want to go to Sayaboury.

Phou Louang (TH-0114) & people in Houei Ohn, Bouam Lao, Bouam Xieng area (SH-92077) on verge of moving to Xieng Mene - enemy reported in area, and any small action would trigger 5000 more refugees.

29/93 Lao from Sop Tioune (TG-425299) arr. Xieng Ngeun after 3 weeks with enemy.

30 March

Ban Houei f Coat (TG-0385) 1000 LT from LS-170/LS-213  
Ban Kio Nja Leu (TG-2761) 500 LT/Meo from LS-170  
Ban Houei Hia (TG-0385) 400 Meo from LS-213.  
Ban Houei Phat (TG-0370) 1300 Meo/LT. from LS-170.



March 26

1685 refugees from Houei Yo arrived Xieng Mene  
44 more families en route.

FAR engaged in operation to retake high ground  
north of L.P.

March 27

683/3415 new refugees in L.P. Town

404/1889 new refugees in Xieng Mene (TH-0002).

44/204 L.T. original from Mok Ho to Xieng Mene.

360/1856 L.T. from Houei Yo (TH-0520) to Xieng  
Mene.

March 28

1250 refugees from Phou Dam (LS-256) arrived  
Xieng Mene, Enemy in SH-112 120 area.

Two NVA taken prisoner in Ban Dons Cho area.

Refugees at Xieng Mene:

HOUEI Yo (L.T.)	1865
Mok Ho (L.T.)	250
Phou Dam (Meo)	1250
Phou Na Vang (Meo)	<u>250</u>

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>3615</u>
--------------	-------------

Houei Yo & Phou Dam people want to go to Syby.

Phou Louang (TH-0114) and people in Houei Ohn,  
Bouam Lao, Bouam Xieng area (SH-9207) on verge  
of moving to Xieng Mene. Enemy in area, any  
small action would trigger 5000 people to Xieng  
Mene.

29/93 Lao from Sop Toune (TG-425299) to Xieng  
Ngeun, after 3 weeks under enemy.

30 March

Breakdown for rice drops:

- (1) Ban Houei Coat (TG-0385) 1000 L.T. from  
LS-170/LS-213.
- (2) Ban Kio Ya Lou (TG-2761) 500 L.T./Meo from  
LS-170.
- (3) Ban Houei Hia (TG-0385) 400 Meo from LS-213.
- (4) Ban Houei Phat (TG-0970) 1300 Meo/L.T. from  
LS-170.

1 April

Enemy battalion in area of Phou Na Vang (RC-1112)  
If enemy moves down toward LP. this could precipitate 5000-8000 more refugees.

FAR unable to advance to summit of Phou Lek  
(TH-0803) because smell of decaying bodies  
to heavy following air.

2 April

400 refugees moved from Sandlank on Mekong to Km-8

4 April

(1) On 2 Septil 10 PL/NVA entered L.T. village of  
Houei Sen (SH-9615). Villagers fled to LT.  
village of Houei Thon (SH-9612), but found  
upon arrival that two companies PL/NVA had  
already occupied the village.

(2) The PL/NVA said they were going to take the  
Nai Bans of Houei Sen and Houei Thon to M. Sai  
for retraining. The 2 Nai Bans managed to  
escape to Xieng Mene, but this villagers are  
still in the hands of the enemy.

(3) The few soldiers around the Lao village of  
Ban Thon (SH-9711) retreated in face of a possible  
enemy threat and the villagers of Ban  
Thon are following. Today a few trickled into  
Xieng Mene.

(4) The Lao villages of Ban Som (TH-0011) and  
Ban Na (SH-0910) have not started to move yet  
but probably will in the next few days, approx.  
600 ethnic Lao.

(5) If Ban Na and Ban Som move 5000 people mostly  
LT. in the Bouam Xieng area (SH-9206) can also  
be expected to move to Xieng Mene.

(6) 25/125 LT. originally from Houei Mak But  
currently at thin Hong (TH-1015) moved to Xieng  
Mene on 3 April.

(7) Refs from VP. both Mao and LT. were at Xieng  
Mene today to talk to Houei Yo LT. and Phou  
Dam Phou Navang Mao, these refugees are pressing  
hard to go to Sayaboury.

(8) FAR forces continue to slowly advance norht  
of Ban Done Cho.

(9) Two POW's captured at Ban Done Cho on Apr 3.



8 April Word has reached King That if he wishes to go to Pak Ou at Phi Mai enemy will permit him to go there and allow palace guard who wear special hats to accompany him.

9 April Total refugees in LP. area 15,526:

- (1) LP. city 5,163 (From Pak Xieng, Houei Yo, Pak Ou, Don Cho, Lat Han, Mok Ho).
- (2) Xieng Mene are 3,594 (From Phou Dan, Houei Yo, Ban Dan, Phou Luang, Lat Han, Phou Na Vang, Mok Ho, Thin Hong).
- (3) Muong Kham 753 (From Ban Dan, Don Cho).
- (4) Ban Nune area 888 (From Phick Onoi, Phik Noi)
- (5) Xieng Ngeun are 4,651 at:  
Ban Houei Khot  
Ban Ko ya Lau  
Ban Houei Hia  
Ban Houei Phat. (From IS-170, IS-213).
- (6) KM 8 area 477 (From Pak Xieng area)

200 people have returned to IS-170 from their hai fields if no problems encountered others will probably return at later date.

10 April Peng Pongsavanh arrived LP. will stay until 18th.

Estimate 2000 more refugees moving from Phou Luang (TH-0114) to Xieng Mene.

11 April

- (1) IS-256 hit last night
- (2) friendly offensive is finally underway and and proceeding slowly.
- (3) Thirty people escaped from enemy at Pak Xieng last night during heavy rainstorm. Were last civilians in area. (approx 300 families).

12 April

- (1) LT. refugees moving from Xieng Mene to relocation area at Ban Pak Mout (SG-9599).
- (2) Peng Pongsavanh said yesterday that any refugees wishing to go to Sayaboury may do so if the Chao Khoueng of Sayaboury will accept them. (300 families)

13 April LT. refugees moving from Xieng Mene to Ban Pak Mout (SG-9599) completed today.

14 April 23/85 moved from Ban Phik Ngai (TH-1003) to Ban Pha Noun (TH-0201). Ban Phik Ngai burned by enemy.

16 April Enemy took friendly position at TH-2106 on night of 15th.

Refugee moves:

- (1) 200 from Na Tan (TH-1506) to LP.
- (2) 150 from Ban Pik Nyai (TH-1003) to Xieng Lom (TG-1100).
- (3) 146 Lau from Pik Nyai to Pha Noun (TH-0301)
- (4) 100 Mao from Long Lap (TG-1794) to Nok Vieng in LP. city.
- (5) 513/1666 refugees from Houei Yo temporary relocation area at Xieng Mene to permanent relocation area at Houei Phay.

17 April Due to enemy action in Nam Luang valley (RB-0394) 50 families have moved to Ban Saluan (SG-820960)

18 April (1) Refugees from the Nam Lung valley:

- Ban Na Keng 15/25
- Ban Houa Keng 17/94
- Ban Na Kuan 14/70
- Ban Na Ngueo 10/59

(2) Will temporarily be relocated at Ban Thin Keo relocation center (RB-139915).

(3) Enemy strength unknown, but have three positions up Nam Lung valley.

(4) Friendly forces have taken Phou Sen and Phou Lek. Sixty - Seventy enemy KIA in Kok Van/Na Tan area.

20 April (1) refugees have started moving out of LP. groups scolaires to Phou Mok where the RLG has constructed a temporary reception center and into relatives homes in LB. and Xieng Mene.

(2) Phou Dam refugees have moved to Sayaboury.

Refugees involved:

- Phou Dam 67/386
- Phou Navang 45/286
- Houei Yo 15/81

arrived in Nam Phoui.



21 April (1) Friendly forces have retaken Ban Pak O (TH-097070) and Ban Kok Van (TH-168081).  
(2) All Phou Dam refugees have moved to Sayaboury except for 15/81.

22 April Friendlies retake Pak Xuang.

23 April (1) 56/248 from Nam Lung area to Ban Sulang (SG-820960).  
(2) Military situation continues to improve.  
(3) During offensive one bailey bridge blown up by enemy on RLG-4 north to Pak Xuang.

25 April 29/106 refugees from Ban Bo Hi (TH-199099) moved out of their village on 4/24 and should arrive in Pak Xuang this afternoon. Were held captive by enemy until FAR retook position earlier this week.

27 April 40 families total moved out of Ban Bo Hi (TH-199099) on Nam Pa river, will be temporarily relocated at Phou Mok.

28 April Total crisis refugee figures:  
(A) Refugees at LP. city:  
(1) 96/102 Lao from Lat Han at Pon Kham school.  
(2) 457/1972 Lao, Leu from Pak Ou at LP. school.  
(3) ~~XXX~~ 112/554 Lao from Pha Khom at Fa Ngeum school.  
(4) 279/1370 Lao from Pak Souang at Sithan school.  
(B) Refugees at Xiang Mene:  
(1) 250/1250 Meo from Phou Dam to Xiang Mene.  
(2) 336/1570 LT. from Houei Yo to Xiang Mene.  
(3) 60/378 Meo from Phou Na Vang.  
(4) 77/396 LR LT. from Houei Mak.  
(5) 134/684 Meo from Phou Luang.  
(6) 101/477 LT. from Mok Ho.

(C) Refugees at Pak Xuang area:

- (1) 67/337 Lao from Phone Ngam at Ban Dan
- (2) 61/174 Lao from Hat Seio to Phou Houet.
- (3) 34/154 Lao from Ban Le at Muong Kham.

(D) Refugees at Ban Nune area:

- (1) 46/215 Leu from Pik Noi to Ban Nune.
- (2) 73/315 Leu from Pak Jek to Ban Nune.
- (3) 69/356 Leu from Pik Nyai to Pha Nom.

Current refugee totals to date:

(A) Tasseng Pha Khom (Formerly in Fa Ngeum School):

- (1) 74/369 Lao from Houei Sen Souk to Nam Dong bridge.
- (2) 64/290 Lao from <sup>U</sup>on Cho to Xieng Thong, LP.
- (3) 47/239 Lao from Pha O to Xieng Thong LP.

(B) Kok Van Area:

- (1) 112/476 Lao from Kok Van, Na Tan, Na Kingeun, Houei Katon & Houei Po at Phou Mok.
- (2) Many still at secces field.

(C) Tasseng Pak Souang: (formerly in Sithan school):.

- (1) 94/469 Lao from Pak Souang to Xieng Thong.LP.
- (2) 74/328 Lao from Ban Thin and Ban Le to Muong Kham.
- (3) 144/845 Lao from Ban Seiou, Kok Khinyeua, Ban Le, Pak Pa, Ban Luang, and Phone Savang at Phia Phoum.
- (4) 71/399 Lao from Ban Sang Hia, Phone Ngam/Kok Pab at Wat That Kok Phai.

(D) Tasseng Pak Ou (formerly in Phong Kham LP school):

(1) 137/745 Lao from Pak Ou, Ban Kok, Houei Yo, Na Sang, Khong Heung, Nong Kham with relatives in LP.

(2) 135/777 Lao/Lau from Ban Muang, Hat Mat, Vang La, Hat Khao and Khon Kham at Muong Kham.

(3) 82/350 Lao from Pung Pui, Houei Kok, Houei Pen and Houei Mak at Phat Phoum.

(4) 64/319 Lao from Pha Theung, That Kham at Ban Chan.

(5) 132/597 Lao from Thin Hong, Don Lam and Houei Kho at various places (Muong Kham).

(E) Xing Mene:

(1) 45/269 LT. from Houei Leum.

(2) 121/635 Meo - LT. from Phou Louane.

(F) Sang Ka Lok:

(1) 336/1570 LT. from Houei Yo to Houei Phat.

(2) 100/431 LT. from Mok Ho to Km 8.

(3) 11/44 Lao from Tha Pho at Muong Kham.

(G) Ban Nune:

(1) 46/215 Lau from Pik Noi.

(2) 75/315 Lau from Pak Jek.

(3) 69/356 Lau from Pik Nyai to Pha Nom.

(H) LP. city:

130/2561 refugees from Bo He.

Permanent schools, dispensaries and wells will be built at Phia Phoum, Muong Kham, Houei Phai and Phou Mok.



29 April

New Refugees (?):

- (1) 17/80 from Phon Ngam (TH-1409) to Kok Pab (TH-0304).
- (2) 5/27 from Thin Hong (TH-1015) to Muong Kham (TH-0506).
- (3) 14/54 from Hin Tong (SH-9914) to Xieng Mene.
- (4) 30/179 from Chaling Noi (SH-9914) to Xieng Mene.
- (5) 9/39 from Houei Sab to Xieng Mene.
- (6) 24/136 from Mok Plai to Xieng Mene.
- (7) 18/84 from Na Hin Ohn to Xieng Mene.
- (8) 26/143 from Chaling Nyai to Xieng Mene.
- (9) 22/164 from Long Lup (TH-1797) to Pak Lung (SG-9099).
- (10) 24/66 from Long Lan (TH-2404) to Phou Mok (SG-9999).
- (11) 30/133 from Bo He (TH-2010) to Phou Mok.
- (12) 18/57 from Kok Van Neua (TH-1708) to Phou Mok.

6 May

New refugees:

- (1) 5/36 from Nong Kham (Pak Ou) to Kok Pab (TH-0304).
- (2) 2/6 from Pha Theung to Kok Pab.
- (3) 5/23 from Mok Ho to KM 8.
- (4) 16/87 from Houei Yo to Houei Phay.
- (5) 4/21 from Pak Pa (Pak Xiang) to Ban May.
- (6) 19/115 from Houei Seng (Phou Louang) to Xieng Mene.
- (7) 1/5 from Lath Kha Moun to Tha Khok.
- (8) 15/68 from Khon Khien to Ban Chane, also, 52/224 people already arrived rolls moved from KM-8 to Houei Coat.

7 May 60/361 refugees move from LP. back to old village of Houei Sene approx. 7 KM ~~XXXXXX~~ south of Kings' farm on Route 4.

12 May (1) 25/147 refugees from Ban Phia Ban Le area (TH-173162)

(2) 50 families from up the Nam Ou have come out to Line Hong (TH-098149).

13 May New refugees:

(1) 14/82 from Pha Theung to Ban Chane new.

(2) 3/11 from Ban Hat Kho to Ban Muong Kham.

(3) 1/10 from Ban Hath Math to Ban Muong Kham.

(4) 2/12 from Ban Khon Kham to Ban Tha Khok.

(5) 0/8 from Ban Long Lan to LP.

(6) 1/5 from Ban Na Sang to LP.

(7) 13/65 from Ban Lam to Phou Mok.

(8) 16/82 from Ban Phic to Phou Mok.

(9) 4/18 from Ban Na Sang to Phou Mok.

21 May New Refugees:

(1) 28/168 from Ban Na Tan to Houei Pho.

(2) 8/27 from Ban Dan Kha to Lat Han.

(3) 19/103 from Houei Pho to Lat Han.

(4) 5/23 from Houei Xang to Ban Phou Mok.

No new returned to village refugee this week.  
Previously reported returned:

(1) 74/369 from LP back to Houei Xang.

(2) 47/237 from LP back to Pha O.

ca May 1971  
F. Benson

17 April - 248 new refugees moved out of  
the Nam Lung valley (area RB-0394)  
are are currently being relocated at the  
Ban Thun Koo Relocation Center (RB-137915)

20 April - Refugees ~~some~~ have started  
moving out of L.P. Group  
Scholaires to Phou Mok, where  
the RLG has constructed a  
temporary reception center,  
and into relatives' homes in  
L.P. and Xeng Mene.

Between April 9-20 753 men arrived Syby  
from L.P.

21 April - Friendly forces have taken  
back Pak Ou ~~and~~  
(TH 0907) and Kote Van  
(TH-1608)

All of the Phou Dam refugees have  
moved to L.P. save<sup>for</sup> 15 families  
81 people.

22 April - Pak Xuang retaken by friendly

23 April - <sup>248</sup> Nam Lung refugees have moved  
to B. Sulang (SG-8296)

total 672 Phou Dam refugees  
have moved to Syby.



-1971-

10 March	150 refugees from Phou Fa (IS-16) to Nam Hia.
9-20 April	127/753 Mee arr. Nam Poui from LP: Phou Dam - 67/386 Phou Na Vang - 45/286 Houei Yo - 15/81
26 April	10/68 Mee from Phou Fa (IS-16) to Nam Hia
22 May	6/45 Yao from Ban Phou Houa Xang (QA-7553) to Nam Phouei.
12-13 December	25/128 ref. from VF-125 613 arr. Paksane by military helicopter now at GM. 17.
15 December	5/32 Mee at Nong Daeng moved by USAID truck to Phone Nhoi, Muong Sanakham.
16 December	1/7 ref. from Ban Vang Nhao, Tasseng Nam Xang, Muong Kham Keut arr. Paksane by boat.
19 December	1/6 Mee from Pha Khot, Muong Kham Keut, arr. Nong Daeng
21 December	29/155 refs from Ban Phone Thong, Tasseng Chom Thong, Muong Kham Keut arr. Paksane by RLG chopper.
28 December	200 refs. reported at Ban Ngieu (VF-194670) after recently being seized by FAR. Refs will move to Paksane by chopper.
29 December	500 ref. reported at Ban Ngieu .
30 December	110 Mee and 112 Lao refugees from Muong Nham arr. Ban Pak Mang by boat.

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. Phan) 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)



Date: August 31, 2011

By: Fritz Benson

Subject: Historical Review of Refugee Movements in Luang Prabang Province

The contents of this paper are notes written during an interview with Bob Dakan, USAID/Laos who was Refugee Operations Officer in Luang Prabang. The interview took place on 21 April 1971. Unfortunately, many of the notes are rather incoherent.

Col. Bao was killed in 1967 above Lat Han at Phon Sam Pan.

Between 1964 and 1965 LS-121, LS-137, and LS-176 were secure sites. The latter site, Nam Thuam (TH-2568) was under the leadership of Lt. Lee Na, who was trying to recapture Nam Bac.

LS-169 located north of Nam Bac was secure, being under the control of Capt. Xieng Chan.

The area south of Nam Bac was also secure.

The King had a special interest in Nam Bac.

In 1967 GM-25 under Khamphay (FAR) moved down from LS-169 to LS-176 and proceeded to capture Nam Bac. SGU Col. Houmpheng (younger brother of the former Chao Muong of Pakbeng) began working out of Nam Bac. His position started to decline because the Hmong and Lao Theung did not get along well with Col. Houmpheng.

Lao Ta (lost in 1965) was basically swapped for Nam Bac, never to be recovered. There was a move from Nam Bac toward LS-138 located south of Lao Ta but this operation failed.

In the Pakseng area in 1967 BV-16 under Col. Bounpheng tried but failed to move up the Nam Suang and Nam Seng rivers. Soptick and Napho refugees moved to Luang Prabang. With regards to Soptick, the PL moved out people to Muong Ngoi. A NVA officer married a Soptick girl. The PL used Soptick as a trading center for sourcing goods such as gas and engines from Luang Prabang.

Sites LS-178, LS-184, LS-196 were recaptured in 1965, and LS-225 was recaptured in 1967.

After the fall of Nam Bac in 1968, the RLG moved back into LS-69 and from there north to the LS-187 and LS-217 areas for the purpose of curtailing road construction from Dien Bien Phu to Muong Khoua (in Phong Saly Province). However, during the 5-6 months they were in the region the RLG couldn't make it across the Nam Ou river. At one point RLG moved into LS-253 and considered the possibility of moving teams into Dien Bien Phu. One group of people came out of LS-253 and went to LS-20A. The area was worked out of LS-196.

Refugees at LS-217 and LS-187, lost – program until 1968-1969 when the PL finished road. RLG move in troops and brought in local Lao Theung from the Om Pia area who were trained in Luang Prabang. Dependents in that area evacuated to Lat Kok and Bouam Xieng. A lot of people couldn't make it out, some 3000 out of 6000 people.

There was a Hmong group at Pha Nong (TJ-5714) that was trying to cross the Nam Ou and contact Hmong and Lao Theung in the Muong Hup region where there were many Hmong and Lao Theung. They failed.

The enemy captured LS-187, LS-217 and LS-169 (Pha Theung), the latter being a stronghold of Xiengchan, the Lao Theung leader in the area (and Lt. Xieng Phan and Lt. Xieng Man Noi). There were about 20,000 in the area managed by Xiengchan. The enemy wiped out many of the people, with only about 3000 who make it out to LS-137, and from there they were transported by choppers, Porters, etc. and transported to Luang Prabang.

The PL was in the Xieng Ngeun area in the early 1960s. Col. Bounchanh who was formerly at the Kiokacham area with White Star forces became a general.

In the Pac Bac area the presence of FAR and ADO was ineffective. Vang Sang and LS-213 troops moved back into Sop Vi out of LS-213, which had been under PL control for a long time. Not very many people came in 1969. Nobody was present when they entered Sop Vi.

Father Bouchard moved people out of Pasaneng to Sayaboury. Dore had farms at Pasaneng and Houei Phat.

RLG was present in LS-134 and LS-174 areas until they were lost in 1964.

Paoleemua from Muong La area worked out of Lao Ta and Mak Phut (LS-137)

**Airstrips cited:**

LS-20A – Long Tieng  
LS-69 – Ban Xieng Lom (PB-9274)  
LS-121 – Lao Ta (TJ-1204)  
LS-134 – Ban Nong Boua (XC-6733)  
LS-137 – Mak Phout (TH-1876)  
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-196 – Houei Thong (TH-8750)  
LS-213 – Pha Hong (TG-4374)  
LS-217 – Yung Tuia (TJ-4421)  
LS-225 – Ban Se (TH-7963)  
LS-253 – Ban Lee (TG-5260)

Between 1964 and 1965, Laota (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 Na, based at Nam Thouam, 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 Link-Up". Phou Saly (LS-178), which was opened in mid-1965, served as base of operation along with Houei Thong (LS-196) and Houei Thong Kho (LS-184).

On January 1, 1966, Laota fell to the enemy. A seesaw battle between Ban Pha Thong (under Captain Xieng Chan), Ban Y (LS-187), Xieng Than (LS-188), and Ban Chuk Chung (LS-138) developed.

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

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

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

In February 1966, Houa Muong in Sam Neua fell and 3,000-4,000 refugees moved to Muong Hiem. Shortly thereafter, Na Khang was attacked, and Vang Pao pulled back to Muong Hiem. About 1,400 Tai Phuan from Tasseng Tham La moved out of Nakhang and proceeded to Muong Hiem, where they remained for six to eight months before moving to a point just south of Muong Hiem. Vang Pao's move precipitated enemy pressure being placed on Muong Hiem which was attacked and captured by the enemy on March 15. During the attack, Souvanna Phouma's nephew was killed (perhaps by his own troops).

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

A short time later, in May (?), Muong Hiem and Na Khang were recaptured by Vang Pao. During the subsequent period, Muong Hiem became the "melting pot" for refugees from eastern Luang Prabang and Sam Neua provinces. Indeed, an operation led by Colonel Chansome in February and March attempted to recapture Muong Son (L-59) in Sam Neua. The same 3,000 refugees which resulted moved to Muong Hiem. An agreement was reached by the RLG that



Neutralist forces in Muong Hiem would bow out in favor of FAR and AC troops. Muong You, located on the Nam Khan west of LS-50, was also captured by friendlies at this time.

During the summer of 1966, Nam Bac was recaptured by GM-25 under Colonel Khamphay, who attained his objective by moving down from Pha Thong to Nam 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 Houmpheng (SGU). The operation resulted in failure. Another operation from Nam Bac to retake Ban Chuk Chung (LS-138), located south of Laota, ended in failure also.

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

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

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

In January 1967, it was decided to push Operation Link-Up west out of LS-178 and LS-196 along the Nam Seng. Concurrently, BV-16 under Colonel Bounpheng moved eastward up the Nam Xuang and Nam Seng. ~~XX~~ The MR-II troops captured several villages along the Nam Seng, such as Ban Sae (LS-225), a trading 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 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-196 where they remained for one month before being flown by Porter from LS-196 to Muong Hiem.

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~~ 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 few who remained in the Soptick and Napho areas, some moved out to Pak Meut. The enemy previously utilized Soptick as a trading center, a point where goods from Luang Prabang could be brought. It was even rumored that an NVA officer married a Soptick 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 2,000 Lao Theung who were living in the area, old and young people only, came out and were taken to LS-178 and LS-196, and finally flown from LS-196 to Muong Hiem.

Another operation was also directed south of LS-196 to 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 Chery and Mok Kha. Although most of the 4,000-5,000 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 were sent to harvest rice in the Mok Kha area which the RLG forces was planning to 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 Phong Saly 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 E-Kaw (who were later to be transferred to 20A).

Vang Pao, for his part, pulled his troops back from the left bank of the Nam Ou when Nam Bac was lost, but continued to send out 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, predominantly Meo and Lao Theung area. The objective of this 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 Hiem was attacked by the enemy utilizing mortars and B-40 rockets. Hostile forces succeeded in destroying the RLG position under Colonel Phanb, as well as the ammunition dump. They made no attempt, however, to burn down the villages or capture the some 6,000 refugees located there.

The refugees fled Muong Hiem and moved to a point 3-6 hours' walk to the south. Two days later, FAR troops reoccupied Muong Hiem and proceeded to loot everything in sight. The civilian population was not permitted to return.

In late 1968, the Muong Hiem refugees had established themselves at a STOL strip built along the river at \_\_\_\_\_.

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

Meanwhile, in northern Luang Prabang Province work on the road to Muong Khoua neared the completion, and the enemy began to move in increasing quantities of troops and supplies.



LS-187 and LS-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 Bouam Xieng and Lat Kok ~~xxx~~ near Luang Prabang. Other refugees walked to LS-169.

LS-169, Ban Pha Theung, was the only remaining Lao Theung stronghold in northern Luang Prabang, and was under the leadership of Lao Theung such as Xieng Phan, Xieng Mang Noi, and Xieng Chan. Approximately 20,000  
? 30,000 people were located in the area.

Enemy pressure continued, however, and Pha Theung fell. What resulted 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 LS-137, where they were airlifted to L.P.

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