



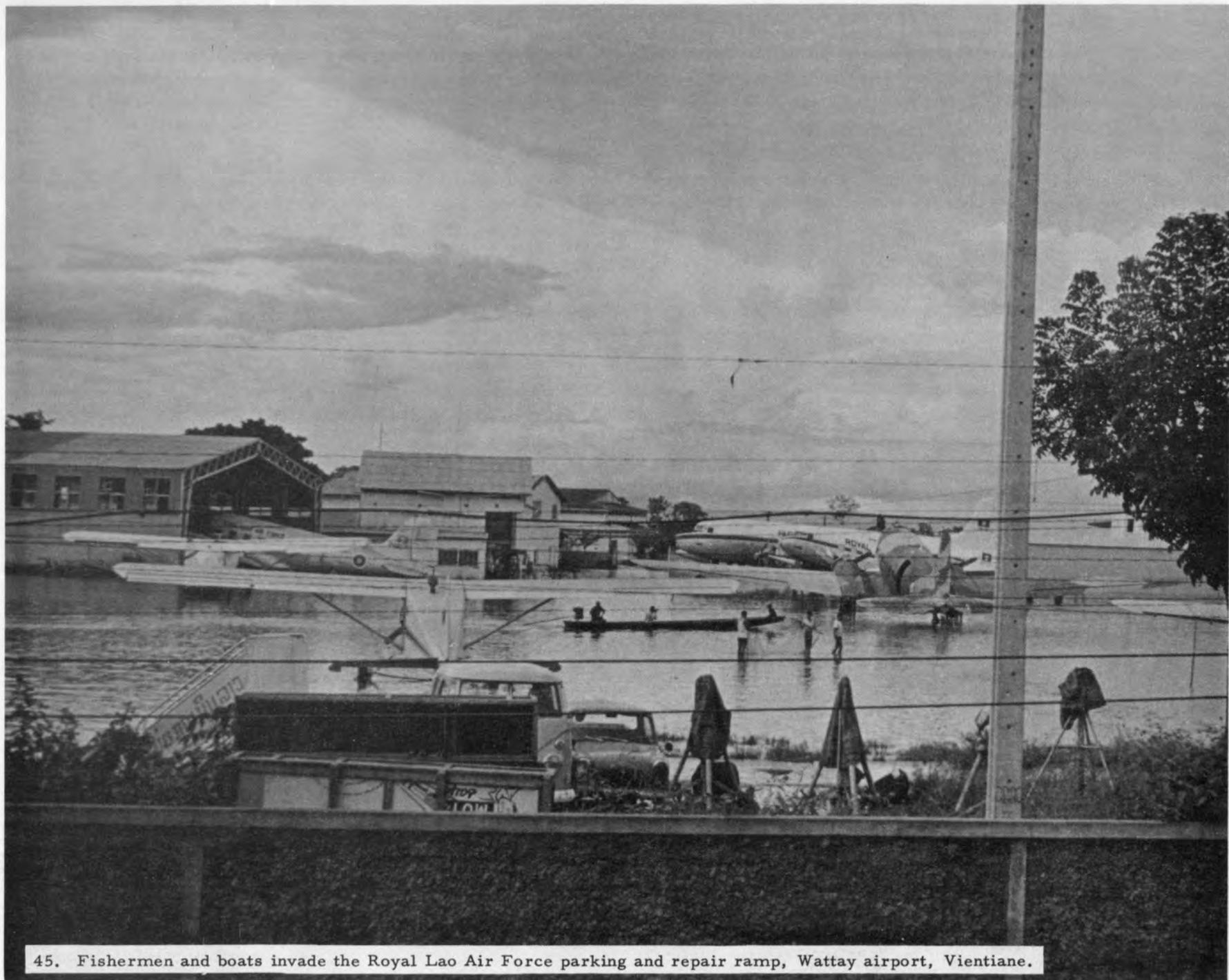
43. Watching the waters rise.



43-A. Carrying sleeping mat, mattress, and a sackful of possessions, this man of Vientiane heads for higher, drier ground.



44. A bus is abandoned on a side street.



45. Fishermen and boats invade the Royal Lao Air Force parking and repair ramp, Wattay airport, Vientiane.



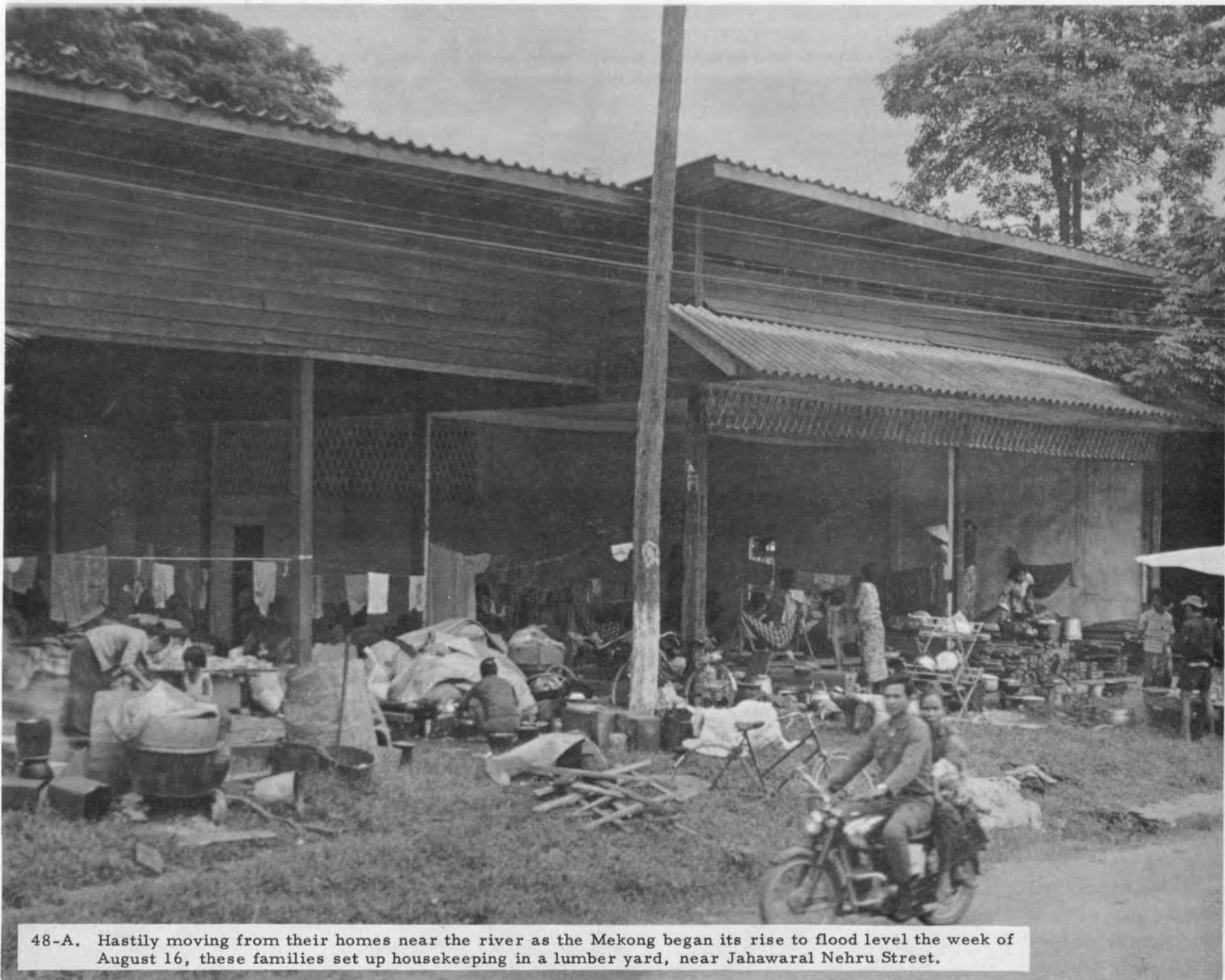
46. A "sky crane" waits at the That Luang HLZ. This was used to lift heavy equipment to where it was needed for flood control operations, as, for example, to place water purification units in strategic locations.



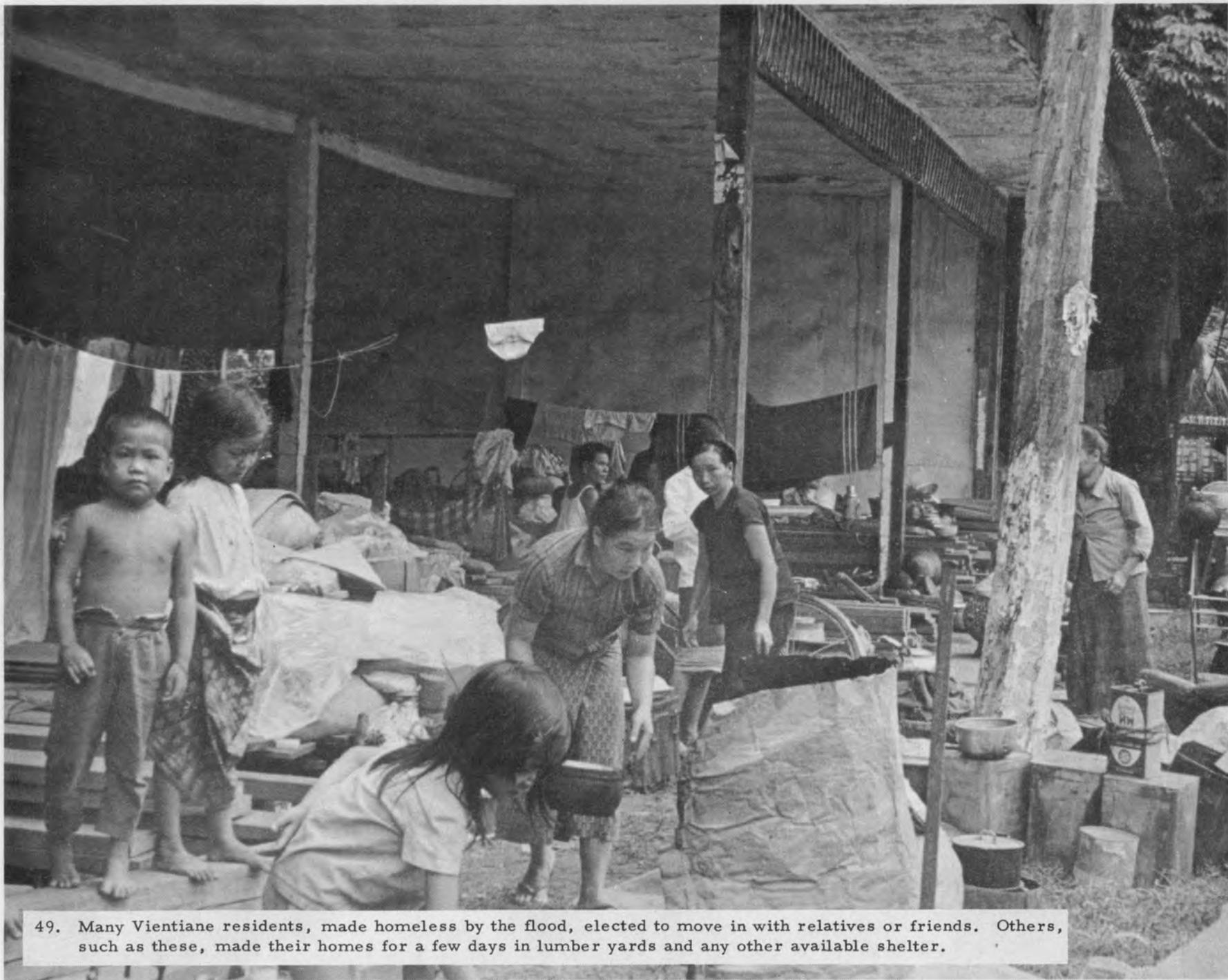
47. The Khao Lio yard of the USAID Public Works Division and the Well Drilling Center took the flood well, thanks to the concrete block wall and some sandbagging at the main gate and at leaky points. The Mekong river is up against the wall which normally stands at the top of the bank, bottom of picture. Beyond is USAID's open storage yard, thoroughly flooded. Vientiane.



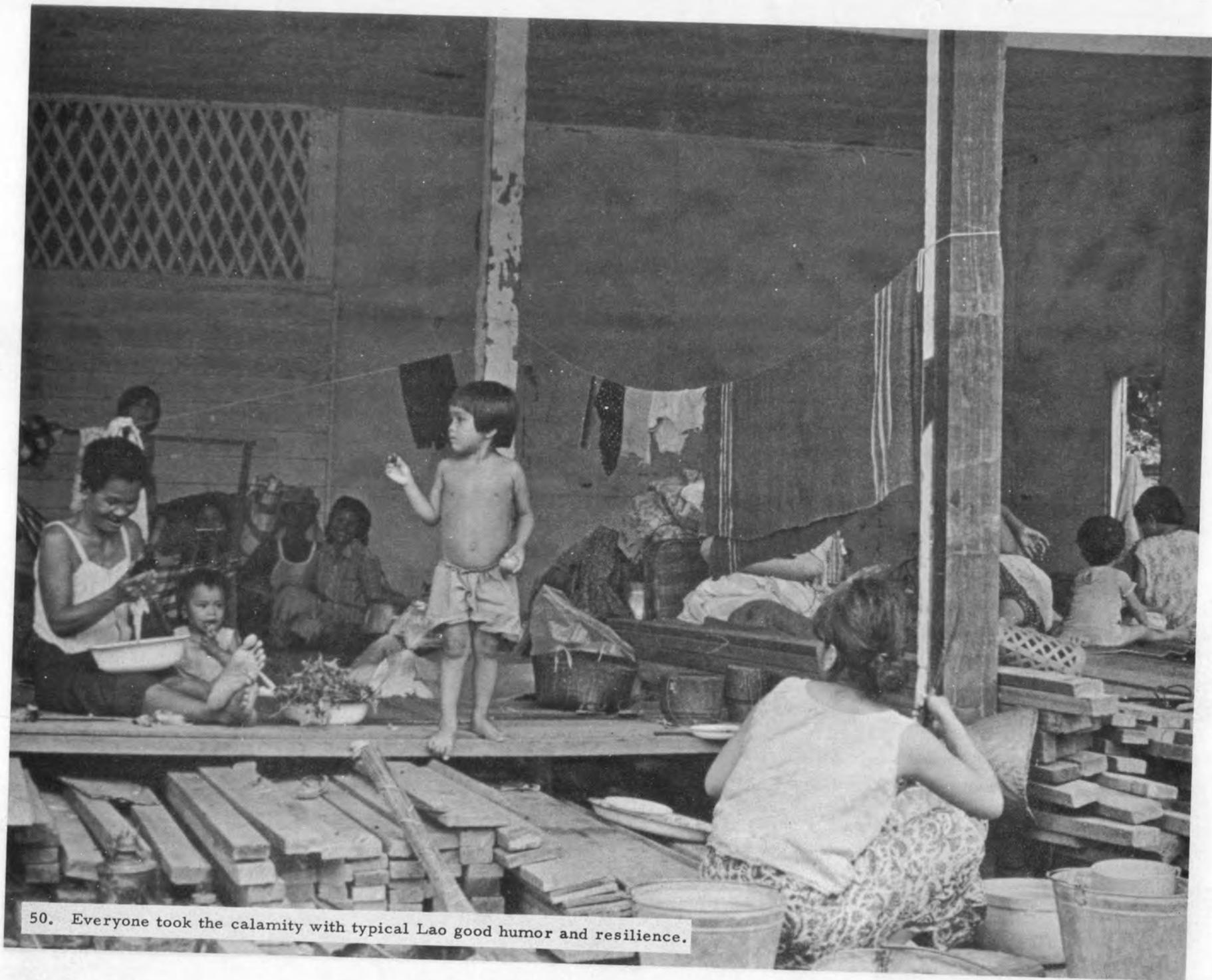
48. The city water supply for Vientiane comes from this plant, which is well protected against flooding and continued in smooth operation at this, which is just about the highest, point of the August 1971 flood.



48-A. Hastily moving from their homes near the river as the Mekong began its rise to flood level the week of August 16, these families set up housekeeping in a lumber yard, near Jahawaral Nehru Street.



49. Many Vientiane residents, made homeless by the flood, elected to move in with relatives or friends. Others, such as these, made their homes for a few days in lumber yards and any other available shelter.



50. Everyone took the calamity with typical Lao good humor and resilience.



51. For children it was a lark.