

TO: Mr. John W. MacQueen, AD/RA April 27, 1971  
(Interview Date)

FROM: William Dean, ORA/Vte *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: Ban Dong Kalum (TE-9193)  
Refugee Status Report

Note on the Interview: The meeting was arranged one day in advance by Mr. Outama, CDA/Thadeua, and happened to coincide with delivery of the refugees' monthly rice issue. (This was the first month the refugees received PL-480 - derived noodles as a rice substitute.) The Nai Tasseng, Nai Khen, his 12 naibans, myself, Mr. Outama, and Mr. Long, RLG/SW - Thadeua (new assistant to Mr. Khamphong) attended the meeting.

Nai Khen has been the Naitasseng of Tasseng Xieng only since 1969 when his area was retaken by the RLG. (He was appointed by the Chao Muong.) The P.I. Tasseng, T.T. Sim, had served from 1966 and decided to stay with the Pathet Lao in 1969. His predecessor in the job was Tit Pheng (1965 - 1966) who was promoted to a position as a 'PhanaKngan' apparently a higher level bureaucrat in the Pathet Lao administration. Nai Khen, a large, open, friendly person who appears to like his position and enjoys the support and trust of his villagers. People say he is "a very good person."

The Ban Dong Kalum refugee site is actually two villages: Ban Dong Kalum (sometimes called Dong Kalum South by USAID) and Lan Nong Vang Pheung, 2 kilometers north and inland from the Mekong. (also called Dong Kalum North) -(See #3)

1.) ORIGIN: Tasseng Xieng, Muong Khun, Khoueng Xieng Khouang; in the town of Xieng Khouangville and the immediate surrounding area except for Ban Muong Khom, 20 kilometers south of town near RN-4.

2.) ETHNIC GROUP: Lao Puan

3.) LEADERS: (NaiTasseng Nai Khen)

4.) CENSUS:

| <u>Village</u>  | <u>Map</u> | <u>Naiban</u>     | <u>Fam.</u> | <u>Pop.</u> |
|---|------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Ban Si Phom..... (UG-2938).....<br>(in Xieng Khouangville) |            | Nai Duang Da..... | 8           | 48          |
| 2. Xang..... (UG-267398).....<br>(3 km. west of XKV on Rn-4)  |            | Tit Boun Mi.....  | 18          | 102         |

| <u>Village</u>      | <u>MAP</u>      | <u>Naiban</u>     | <u>Fam.</u> | <u>Pop.</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 3. Na Liang.....    | (UG-317387).... | Nai Daeng .....   | 22          | 118         |
| 4. Na Sai.....      | (UG-290400).... | Nai Boun Mi.....  | 17          | 97          |
| 5. Na Ou.....       | (UG-260395).... | Xieng Phou Mi.... | 13          | 81          |
| 6. Sae Fa.....      | (UG-324359).... | Xieng Xing.....   | 12          | 71          |
| 7. Kang Pa.....     | (UG-317370).... | Xieng Paeng.....  | 7           | 41          |
| 8. Na Kham.....     | (UG-334384).... | Nai Si.....       | 11          | 60          |
| 9. Thoum.....       | (UG-329360).... | Xieng Duang Di... | 6           | 27          |
| 10. Pho Si.....     | (UG-327365).... | Nai Sohn .....    | 18          | 94          |
| (Ban Nasoy)         |                 |                   |             |             |
| 11. Muong Khom..... | (UG-328236).... | Tit Luang Da..... | 27          | 138         |
| 12. Khon Sawan..... | (UG-336378).... | Tit Kham Phan.... | 3           | 12          |
| TOTAL               |                 |                   | 162         | 882         |

Note: Families of villages 1 - 4 above have settled at Ban Dong Kalum (Total: 65/365) and families of 5 - 12 are at Ban Nong Vang Pheng (97/524) - a 30 minute walk, 2 kilometers away.

#### Unapproved

#### New Families:

- 1) Ban Pho Si: Family of Xieng Phan, 7 persons, arrived Mar. 30, 1971 from LS-272.
- 2) Na Liang: Family of Xieng La, 4 persons, arrived from LS-272, in March 1971.
- 3) Na Sai: Family of Xieng Sai, 3 persons, from Ban Done to join parents.

Note: Other Tasseng Xieng families live at Vang Vieng, Vientiane, LS-272, NaTu-NaLouang, Paksane, 20-A area, with 11 men in FAR.

5.) EDUCATION: The refugee students attend the old school in Ban Dong Kalum and a new temporary 3-room school in Nong Vang Pheng. Next year, the villagers say, all families will move to Nong Vang Pheng and a permanent school will be constructed there.

Of the three refugee teachers, two (Thao Kham Phiu and Thao Duang Di) teach at Nong Vang Haeung with the third (Nang Kham Bang) at Dong Kalum. There are so many students the teachers teach in 2 shifts even though they receive the standard salary of Kip 3000/month. They would like to be paid more because of their double workload.

TEACHING AIDS REQUESTED:

NOTEBOOKS

6.) HEALTH: A.) The Dooley Foundation Hospital Boat is scheduled to visit every Friday, but the villagers said they were into their third week without a visit.

B.) Nang Bua Phan is a refugee medic who tends a USAID/PHD Sub-Dispensary in Nong Vang Pheung. She said she is supplied with medicine from Mr. Phomma, the PHD medic who runs the dispensary in the old village of Dong Kalum. She says the medicine is not enough for the needs of her villagers and she gets only one delivery every 2-3 months.

The villagers prefer to use the O.B. Hospital over Mahosot. They asked for a medic to be assigned to Ban Dong Kalum.

7.) AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK:

Rice: The Tasseng Xieng families planted a crop of upland rice soon after arrival in 1970. Nai Khone said his people were paddy farmer in their old area and did not know how to plant upland rice correctly. They used too heavy a seeding and many of the rice plants died of overcrowding or matured with empty heads. This year they talked to the old Dong Kalum villagers to learn better techniques. (Mr. Outama, CDA/Thadeua, said the land clearing tractors are scheduled to come to Dong Kalum and Nong Vang Pheung in time to help the villagers make paddyfields this planting season - probably in May.

Pest Damage & Control: Nai Khone said his villagers had had no significant insect or rat problems with their 1970 rice crop. They had not received any Hudson sprayers or SEVIN insecticide.

Gardens: Two distributions of vegetable seeds have been received and planted. The villagers said the soil was not good here and needed fertilizer to produce good vegetables.

Fertilizer: The villagers were unaware of the availability of ADO commodities, such as commercial fertilizers (16-16-8 for vegetables @ 1650 Kip/50 Kg. Bag = 330 K/Kilo). They bought fertilizer - type unknown - on the Thai side of the Mekong in the

Phon PiSai market at 250 K per bag. Some villagers said the bags were 1 kilo each, others said they weighed less. They also bought some "Folidol" insecticide at 300 K per small aluminum bottle.

Livestock: Domestic animals limited mainly to chickens, which die in "large" numbers soon after the villagers purchase them. The disease causes the fowl to pass quantities of white droppings and die usually within a day or two of the onset of symptoms.

Service Visits: None of the villagers could recall being visited by any members of the Agriculture or Veterinary Services.

Peppers: In their old homes the villagers said pepper plants bore fruit when they were only one foot tall but here "they get as high as a man" and have less than 10 peppers on them.

Attitude: Xiengkhouangville was usually cool and always had plenty of water; everything grew well and was not difficult to raise. Here, in Dong Kalum, the land is completely flat and there is no water in the hot season because there are no mountains to provide runoff.

8.) COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION (163 families approved)

Rice: 94 one hundred kilogram bags with 70 bags of PL-480 noodles. (Previous to this: 139 bags of rice) To weigh their rice the villagers use an old French hanging balance scale they brought with them from Xiengkhouangville - similar to the type portrayed on the P.L. 100 Kip note. The rice shipments are delivered to Ban Dong Kalum, so the 97 out of 162 families who live two kilometers away in Nong Vang Pleung (a 30 minute walk, unloaded) hire a bus at 50 Kip per person to carry their food supplies back to their village.

Salt: 9 forty kilogram bags.

PL-480: Today the Tasseng Xieng villagers received their first monthly rice/noodles allotment. They boiled the noodles with green onions and meat scraps for lunch, and seemed initially pleased with their taste. They also reported liking bulgar wheat and powdered milk. Some villagers had tried stir-frying the bulgar with cooking oil after soaking it in water and said it was good this way.

Household Goods: Complete distribution of all items.

Garden Tools: Mattocks (Chok): 58 received, still lack 105 each to have one per family; Lao Hoes (Siem): none received, 163 each needed; Lao Axes (Kwan): none received, 163 each needed; Shovels, Tru-Temper U.S. type: 96 received, 63 more needed. Blacksmith Tools: One set received, which is sufficient.

9.) OTHER NEEDS:

- a.) The Tasseng asked for a Lao-style ripping saw to cut logs into lumber.
- b.) The villagers would like a drilled well installed in Nong Vang Kheung - where their permanent village will be.
- c.) The Nong Vang Kheung villagers may also require additional well-rings for the dug wells they are working on.

ORA:WVDean:mem:5/6/71

DIST: OD/DD, AC/Vte, CDAA/Schriber, ORA/JWilliamson,  
ORA-3, C&R-3, AGR/Rasmussen, EDU/Woodson,  
PHD/Weldon