

Woodson ~~EDU~~ A-08

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. James B. Chandler  
Acting Director

Date: 19 June 1971

FROM :

*John F. MacInnes*  
John F. MacInnes, AFSA

SUBJECT : Office of Refugee Affairs  
Monthly Report - May 1971

I. GENERAL

Relatively few new refugees were added to the rolls during the month with the bulk of the increases representing former refugees being added upon verification of depletion of family rice reserves. Some new refugees continued trickling into RLC areas from Khammouane and Savanase Provinces and were being provided assistance. The case load of refugees in many areas has increased considerably over a year ago when the total number of refugees reported was 267,361 compared to 437,103 on the rolls this month.

Military Region I

Ban Houei Sai: The situation in Houei Kiang Province continues to stabilize with former refugees continuing to report to newly established refugee sites, however, little new enemy activity affecting refugees is reported. Primary emphasis is being given to providing logistical support to the refugees and assisting them in acquiring land for cultivation of rice. It is interesting to note that BHS is now providing care to approximately ten thousand more refugees than one year ago.

Luang Prabang: A complete survey of refugee villages is being conducted to determine those who will require assistance upon depletion of family rice stores. During the month the bulk of the additions to the rolls represented this category of refugees.

Savaboury: No change.

Military Region II

P.N. and Central 272: Situation remained stable with the increase in number of refugees reported attributable to depletion of family rice reserves.

DISTR: OD, DD, AB/M, AD/FO, AB/M, AD/EA (9), EPM (2), AD/FO, SMU (7), FTFO, C&R (4), AD/BHS, LF, Via, My, Sava, Pava, XK, An Division (6) - Laos Desk - AD/W (1)

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### Military Region III

Thakhek: The number of refugees reported in the immediate Thakhek area decreased for the second month. Those dropped from the rolls have presumably returned to their former homes. Improvements in the refugee sites are under way for those refugees remaining in the area with the bulk to be located in seven villages.

Savannakhet: Movement out of the Savannakhet area continues with a small reduction in number of refugees reported this month over the previous month. Most of the refugees, however, are content to stay in place until conditions in their former homes sites is stabilized.

### Military Region IV

Pakxai: The number of new refugees from Nakxay Province dropped considerably over previous months with only 178 being reported for this reporting period. The majority of those added to the rolls are accounted for by the return of families to their homes in Wapithanong Province and requiring assistance. Pakxai is now providing assistance to almost double the number of refugees carried on the rolls one year ago.

### Military Region V

Vientiane Plain: This area realized the largest increase in number of refugees of any of the areas reporting. With the exception 239 new refugees reported from the Thakhek area, the balance represent former refugees returned to the rolls for support until the next harvest.

Pakxane: Additions to the rolls due to former refugees again being provided assistance.

Vang Vieng: No change.

### Other Comments:

Warehouse Construction: Phu Khao Seng's Center: Overall construction on the project is estimated to be 75% complete at month end. The buildings themselves will be completed by the middle of June, however concrete work around the buildings will require additional time. The large warehouse at Ban Ton Sheng (see April monthly report) in Houayxay Province is well underway with completion scheduled for the middle of the year.



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Piles: A total of 100 tons hand tractors have been sent to Pakse for use in the Khong Sadoe Area. Operators have been hired and are being trained.

Arrangements have been made to purchase one truck load of cassava cuttings for distribution at Phou Ke Chiang and Houei Sane Phou.

Phou Ba Chiang: All refugees have moved into their permanent village sites. Plastic sheeting has been distributed to about 200 families for which thatch was not available.

#### III PERSONNEL

Robert M. Hearn, Republic and Experience Director, was present on TDY Savannahet during the absence of Gustaf Mell, USAID on home leave.

Robert McClymonds completed his contract in May 1971. Mr. McClymonds had been working primarily with the RUC/MSW at the Ban Amone Equipment Center and in the relocation program.

#### IV FOOD FOR PEACE

See attached report.

#### V LOGISTICS

The following items were distributed nationwide for the periods shown. PL-480 Title II items are reported as an enclosure to this report.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Apr 71</u>	<u>May</u>
Salt	168.55 MT	118.28 MT
Rice	3,489.83 MT	4,472.11 MT
Meal	14,086 cases	8,606 cases
Mosquito Nets	3,959	5,381
Sleeping Mats	2,816	5,389
Blankets	3,891	5,771
Water Buckets	2,031	3,556
Cooking pots	1,413	1,749
Steamers	1,572	1,649
Sieve Pans	1,887	1,511

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Dishes	8,658	11,057
Wash basin	1,604	2,544
Tables	5,802	4,415
Plastic Rollie	367	373
Clothing, piece	3,638	12,831
Steel Bars	54	1,360

Attachments (2)

- 1) Monthly Refugee Status Report
- 2) FFP Monthly Report

ORA:WJL:ken:ou