

LARRY  
EDH A-08  
4

REF ID: A66000  
DATE: 10/10/72  
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED  
AUTHORITY: 50 USC 3025

Mar 6 1972

I. GENERAL

Although military activity during the month continued at a relatively high level, much of the movement of refugees could be attributed to efforts of RLG and USAID officials to provide suitable areas for refugees already reported. In many cases the refugees themselves moved to areas of their choice pending an opportunity to return to their original home areas.

An exception to this was the Luang Prabang area which reported 1023 Lao Theung refugees fleeing from areas east of LS 4 and an additional 1348 persons displaced from various areas and regrouped near Route 13.

In Region II the heavy fighting around Long Thieng has not resulted in any sizeable refugee movements other than those reported during the past few months. A group of 560 new refugees were reported in the SE Rim PDJ arriving from LS 245 which is enemy controlled.

The Savannakhet area (Region III) and Pakse area (Region IV) continue to be targets for enemy harassment with refugees continuing to trickle in from Dong Hene and Khong Sedone areas.

Local USAID and RLG officials have been able to provide assistance to new refugees where required and have continued to survey older refugee groups for eligibility.

H. E. Keo Viphakhone, Secretary of State, together with other RLG officials including Mr. Souvanh Sananikhone, Chairman of the Committee for Refugees and Public Health from the National Assembly

DIST: OD, DD, AD/M, AD/FIN, AD/FO, AD/PE, AD/RA(9),  
EPM (2), SMB (2), FFPO, CYR (3), AC/Vte, Sby LP,  
BHS, Svkt, Pkse, XK, All Division Chiefs, Laos Desk AID/W

were a... Mr. ... and ...  
 Congress. Relocation Officer for ORA on ...  
 Savannakhet and Phongsavan on 7 and 8 May, Pakse on 10 May.  
 The itinerary included visits to local refugee sites, discussions with  
 local officials and Provincial Councils. A similar visit was made to  
 Ban Houei Sai, Luang Prabang and Sayaboury during the week of  
 March 27th.

The Phou Ba Chiang refugee site in Pakse was evacuated by its  
 inhabitants March 8 - 13 who moved to various locations from Km-13  
 to Km-24. The move was prompted by enemy harassment of the  
 site. Work on the access road however has been continuing and  
 late reports indicate male refugees are returning to Phou Ba Chiang  
 to plant their rice crops.

Warehouse construction has commenced at Wattay Airport,  
 Ministry of Social Welfare site at That Khao and the Ban Amone  
 Land Development Center in the vicinity of Vientiane.

## II. REFUGEE RELOCATION

Relatively good security and weather permitted resettlement  
 projects to progress at full speed in most parts of the country.

On the Vientiane Plain priority continues to be given to the  
 Tha Ngon Reserve Area (Reserve Area #3) Village site clearing and  
 access road construction has been completed for the first seven  
 villages. Nearly all refugees to be settled in the area have moved to  
 the village sites and construction of permanent housing is almost com-  
 pleted. Floors for 12 permanent classrooms will be poured in April.  
 Ministry of Social Welfare bulldozers and farm tractors have pre-  
 pared approximately 400 hectares of land for rice cultivation this  
 year. Activities in other areas are progressing on schedule.

The Hin Heup Relocation Project is well underway and will be  
 completed before the wet season. Only 34 of the total 857 houses  
 required remain incomplete. All 14 kilometers of dry weather  
 road and 6 of 12 kilometers of all weather road have been completed.  
 All 11 village sites have been cleared and 10 of 20 classrooms have  
 been completed. The other 10 classrooms are expected to be  
 operational by May 1. Having finished their houses a number of  
 refugees have begun construction of temples, and the refugees appear  
 to be well on their way to establishing a permanent community.

In Savannakhet all but 40 of the planned 1,100 families were  
 moved into the Thasano Relocation Area. The others are expected to  
 move in after their children complete the current term of secondary  
 school in Savannakhet City. Road work is progressing very well with

At Seno the last bit of work is being done on the temple at village #1 bringing this construction phase of the project to 100% completion. Rice seed and fertilizer are being distributed, and it is anticipated that the Seno settlers will be entirely self sufficient by the end of the 1973 harvest period.

In Pakse security improved in the Phou Ban Chiang Relocation Area during the latter part of the month, and PWD crews resumed work on the road and bridge. It is anticipated that refugees will begin to recoup the areas in April.

In Luang Prabang work is progressing on schedule in the Xieng Ngeun-Muong Nane Valley Relocation Project. Approximately 29 kilometers of dry season road have been completed and all 8 villages presently planned for the project have been occupied.

### III. PERSONNEL

Keith Sanders arrived at post on 12 March and has been assigned to Xieng Khouang as a Refugee Operations Officer. Thomas Culbertson arrived at post on 17 March and has been assigned to Ban Houe Sal.

### IV. FOOD FOR PEACE

See attached report

### V. LOGISTICS AND SUPPLIES

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>February</u>	<u>March</u>
Rice	3,722.49 MT	3,870.20 MT
Meat	295.70 MT	365.04 MT
Salt	107.15 MT	100.60 MT
	<u>4,125.04 MT</u>	<u>4,340.84 MT</u>

	2011	2012
...	2875	3012
...	2844	4502
Blind...	3729	5840
Hans	6453	8800
Tools	8601	3644
Plastic (rolls)	841	400
Cloth (Metres)	654	6343
Clothing (Piece)	3073	6579
Pots	2175	6835
Water Buckets	1849	0
Bowls	1158	0

Attachments: (2)

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

ORA:WCLuken:mem

								16,830	17,383	+ 553
Prachin	37,936	42,516						37,936	42,516	+4,580
Sayaboury	2,080	2,114						2,080	2,114	+ 34
REGION II										
Ribl PDJ	9,925	9,925						9,925	9,925	-
LP 25 Area										
SE R m PDJ		2,741							2,741	+2,741
Central 272	91,402	97,672	551					91,953	97,672	+5,739
REGION III										
Thakhek	70	740	88					828	828	-
*Savannakhet	10,354	9,654			2,953			13,307	13,609	698
REGION IV										
*Pakse	9,841	13,621	2,545					12,386	13,621	+1,235
Sihandone	340	356	-					340	356	+ 16
REGION V										
Vientiane City		4,933							4,933	+4,933
*Vie. Plain	1,300	8,247	28,480	24,917				29,780	33,163	+3,383
*Paksane	10,988	7,607						10,988	10,574	414
Vang Vieng										
Chong Kassy	11,652	13,544		1,006				11,652	14,550	+2,898
TOTALS	203,378	231,613	31,644	28,966	2,953	2,967		237,975	262,945	+24,970

5,000 refugees from the 70 LP 25 Area.

**SAY:** As a result of enemy action, new refugees fled LP province to Sayaboury. Other increases were 60 persons from Bak Hat (OB9682), 40 persons from Nam Sing (OB3732), & 27 persons from Pang Poud (Q 7881). Self-sufficient refugees were dropped from the rolls offsetting most of the increase.

**MRH:** Increases due to old refugees being put back on the rolls as rice reserves have become exhausted.

**SVKT:** The major trend in refugee movements continue to be from the Muong Atsapime area north and east of Dong Hene. A net decrease was reported, however, was Dong Hene & Phalane refugees moved on with relatives and no longer require support.

**PSE:** Enemy attacks in the Khong Sedone area & continued military activity on the Paksong Rd. forced both old & new refugees to seek safe haven at Km 13 on the Saigon Road south of Pakse.

**STD:** 16 refugees from Ban Thai Hal in Cambodia moved to Ban Hat Saikhoun.

**VTE:** Increase due to Ban Xon refugee movement into the Hin Heup resettlement area. In Vientiane City refugees from Xieng Khouang area that fled to the city as a result of NVA offensives have been identified and are receiving temporary assistance until their status is classified.

**PSN:** Recount, eligibility review, and movement of 228 LS-63 refugees from Paksane to Vientiane account in the decrease.

**VV/MK:** Increase due to inclusion of displaced Ban Xon refugees.