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MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. Charles A. Mann, Director 16 February 1972

FROM : John W. MacQueen, AD/RA *J W MacQueen*

SUBJECT : Office of Refugee Affairs
Monthly Report - January 1972

I. General

The North Vietnamese dry-season offensive, which began in mid-December, intensified during the month of January. On the whole the military activity continued to displace refugees from last year's action. Exceptions were 6,000+ Muong Kassy refugees and 740 in Savannakhet area. In the north NVA forces, having over-run all government positions on the strategic Plain of Jars and having besieged Long Tieng, re-directed their drive west along Route 7. On 11 January 1972 the village of Sala Phou Khoun at the junction of Routes 7 and 13 was attacked by an estimated two enemy battalions. Heavy fighting continued until 21 January when RLG troops retreated to Muong Kassy. Having established a staging point on Route 13, NVA forces launched a two-pronged attack north towards Kiou Ka Cham (TG 0968) and south towards Muong Kassy (TG 1130). This action precipitated the movement of some 4,000 people from the Kiou Ka Cham area to safe havens nearer Luang Prabang and the official RLG decision to evacuate over 6,000 civilians from Muong Kassy to Vang Vieng.

Temporary resettlement camps have been set up at Kiou Ya (TG 0582) for those refugees from Kiou Ka Cham and at Houei Ngam a few kilometers south of Vang Vieng for those people from Muong Kassy. In both cases USAID and RLG officials were on hand to provide food, material for shelters, medical care, and relief commodities as the situation demanded.

In the south more refugees were added to the full support rolls as a result of stepped up PL/NVA harassment in the Dong Hene-Muong Atsaphone area of Savannakhet Province and a new enemy offensive into the Keng Ngao area north east of Pakse.

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II. Resettlement

The refugee resettlement projects continued to progress throughout the country despite temporary interruptions due to poor security in the Xieng Ngeun-Muong Nane Valley and Phou Ba Chiang project areas. Of major concern during the month was the acquisition of temporary relocation areas on the Vientiane Plain to accommodate an influx of potentially 100,000 refugees from MR II. A suitable area containing a natural source of water and bamboo was located by RLG Ministry of Social Welfare and USAID/ORR resettlement officers approximately 15 kilometers north of Phone Hong and west from Ban Hin Heup along the Nam Lik River. At month's end a proposal to formally reserve the area had been submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers by H. E. Keo Viphakone, Secretary of State for Social Welfare and Labor, and an Activity Proposal for the upgrading of existing roads, clearing of village sites, and construction of reception facilities was being prepared for submission to USAID.

III. Personnel

Mr. John W. Tucker arrived in Laos on January 24 and, after orientation in Vientiane, was assigned to Pakse to assume the duties of ORR Operations Officer/Pakse.

Mr. Robert M. Wulff, CDAA, had been on TDY status in this capacity since October 1971. Mr. Wulff is to be complimented for his outstanding performance and cooperation during his three and one half months of temporary duty in Pakse.

Mr. Lawrence J. Berger was transferred from ORR to Public Health Division. To date, he has not been replaced.

IV. Food For Peace

See attached report.

V. Logistics and SuppliesFood & Commodities
Distributed to Refugees

<u>Item</u>	<u>December Metric Tons</u>	<u>January Metric Tons</u>
Rice	3,627.2	3,185.3
Meat	288.2	183.3
Salt	71.1	67.4
Cornmeal	-	16.6
Noodles	140.0	18.3
Salad Oil	1.3	18.0
Dry Milk	-	2.5
Bulgur Wheat	11.0	25.3
WSB	-	3.6
CSM	-	3.6
Faddy Rice	-	50.6
Total	4,138.8	3,574.5

	<u>January No. of Units</u>
Mosquito Net	2,451
Sleeping Mat	2,367
Blanket	5,481
Bucket	1,087
Fan/Dish	2,514
Tool (all kinds)	3,873
Plastic (roll)	1,138
Cloth (meter)	16,048
Clothing (piece)	3,294
Steel Bar	724
Pots	1,735
Total	40,712

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VI. Status of Approved ORA-Sponsored Activity Plan Units
for January

<u>Province</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Comp.</u>	<u>Cancel.</u>	<u>No Rep.</u>	<u>In Proc.</u>	<u>Not Start.</u>	<u>Susp.</u>
Houa Phan	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
Luang Prabang	16	3	0	4	5	4	0
National	3	0	0	0	3	0	0
Pakse	9	1	0	1	5	0	2
Sayaboury	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
Savannakhet	49*	2	0	36*	5	1	5
Vientiane	82+	12	1	9	29	25	6
Xieng Khouang	<u>36**</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>23**</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	199	21	1	74	57	31	15

* Includes 36 drilled wells of one unit each (no reports)

+ Includes 18 drilled wells of one unit each

** Includes 20 locations for geese of one unit each (project not started)

Percentage of total Units during January:

Completed	10.5%
Cancelled	.5
No Report	37.1
In Process	28.6
Not Started	15.5
Suspended	07.5

Attachments: (2)

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

ORA: JLWilliams:mhb

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

ລາຍງານຊາວອົບພະຍົບປະຈຳເດືອນ - ພິລດມືອງແຕລະເວດ
MONTHLY REFUGEE STATUS REPORT

FOR JANUARY, 1972

Population Breakdown By Region

*Denotes Relocation Project	REFUGEES RECEIVING FOOD AND REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE				REFUGEES RECEIVING REHABILITATION ONLY		Total for Dec	Total for Jan	Net Change	Remarks
	FULL SUPPORT		PART SUPPORT		For Dec	For Jan				
AREA	For Dec	For Jan	For Dec	For Jan	For Dec	For Jan				
REG. ON I										
Ban Houei Sai	16,007	16,746	-	-	-	-	16,007	16,746	+ 739	<p>BHS: Fear of being drafted by the PL prompted 165 people to move from Houei Han (QB-1575) to Muong Ngeua (QB-2172). Enemy advances into Ban Nam Kha (PB-5482) forced 51 Leu to seek refuge at Houei Philok (PC-3054). Other major changes resulted from eligibility review and recount.</p> <p>LP: PL harassment in the areas of Lat Khamoune (SH-8319) and Houei Phouc (TH 2109), and the NVA offensive west from the PDJ generated the movement of some 4,000 refugees into safe haven areas closer to LP. However, only 28 new refugees were reported as most of the 4,000 were already on the support rolls.</p> <p>SEY: No Change</p> <p>MR II: 745 refugees moved from the Ban Xon area and are now on full support in Vang Vieng.</p> <p>SVKT: Continued fighting in the Muong Atsaphone Dong Hene areas (WD-3046) accounts for the increase this month.</p> <p>PKE: A new NVA thrust into the Ban Keng Ngao area (XB-0595) forced 590 persons to seek refuge in Muong Souvannakhili. Another 93 refugees from the Saravane area have been relocation at Ban Done (WB-8672).</p> <p>SDN: 1 family of new refugees from the Oudomsouk area moved to Ban Hat Saikhoun as NVA forces threatened to attack.</p> <p>VTE: 27,200 refugees were switched from full to partial support after attaining self-sufficiency in rice. Other changes due to eligibility review.</p> <p>PSN: Major changes due to eligibility review.</p> <p>VV/MK: Massive increase due to evacuation from Muong Kassy and Ban Xon areas. These people are being sheltered and provided for at Houei Ngam (TF-3390).</p>
Luang Prabang	37,079	37,107	-	-	-	-	37,079	37,107	+ 28	
Savaboury	1,947	1,947	-	-	-	-	1,947	1,947	-	
REG. ON II										
N. Rim PDJ	12,091	12,091	-	-	-	-	12,091	12,091	-	
LS-25 Area	2,000	2,000	-	-	-	-	2,000	2,000	-	
SE Rim PDJ	3,376	3,376	-	-	-	-	3,376	3,376	-	
Central 272	97,208	96,463	2,200	2,200	-	-	99,408	98,663	- 745	
REG. ON III										
Tnakhek	740	740	88	88	-	-	828	828	-	
*Savannakhet	9,714	11,304	-	-	-	-	9,714	11,304	+1,590	
REG. ON IV										
*Pakse	8,742	9,425	2,416	2,416	-	-	11,158	11,841	+ 683	
Sithandone	323	328	-	-	-	-	323	328	+ 5	
REG. ON V										
*Vte Plain	27,200	-	780	28,480	-	-	27,980	28,480	+ 500	
*Paksane	8,530	8,728	238	-	-	-	8,768	8,728	- 40	
Vang Vieng Muong Kassy	3,532	9,788	-	-	-	-	3,532	9,788	+6,256	
			23,184		-	-	234,211	243,227	+9,016	