

HUNTER  
LADY

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EDU-A-08

MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. Charles A. Mann, Director November 19, 1971  
FROM : John W. MacQueen, AI/RA *John W. MacQueen*  
SUBJECT: Office of Refugee Affairs Monthly Report - October 1971

I. General

The total refugee population showed a significant drop during the month of November with a total of 9,975 less than the previous month. Ban Houei Sai and Thakhek recorded the largest decreases due primarily to eligibility reviews. Offsetting these reductions were increases in Central 272 of Region II where refugees were again placed on the rolls as rice stores became exhausted and Luang Prabang experienced an influx of refugees due to military operations. Minor movements of new refugees into Savannakhet and Pakse continued to be reported in face of continued enemy pressure.

The revised field reporting system has been introduced to most field stations and has been generally found to be very acceptable. The report promises to provide more accurate data regarding the various categories of refugees as well as indicating the kinds and amounts of commodities provided.

Commodities and equipment donated to the Ministry of Social Welfare by the Federal Republic of Germany are beginning to arrive in country. The major items include two caterpillar bulldozers and 250 tons of metal roofing sheets.

The Government of Japan is planning a major press campaign to acquaint the Japanese people with the refugee problems in Laos. In this connection they have brought in a team of journalists to do stories which will be released in all major Japanese newspapers in late November. The Ministry of Social Welfare is interested in this from the point of view of possible additional Japanese aid for the refugees. Travel of these journalists to various points in Laos was coordinated by ORA, the Ministry and Counsellor Yamashita of the Japanese Embassy.

II. Resettlement

During late September and early October Hugh Brady visited all major field stations to discuss and coordinate refugee project priorities

for the various areas. Following this trip Brady then accompanied the Dry Season Review Team on its visits with the Area Coordinators. As a result of this coordination, during the Dry Season Review Conference on 26-27 November, all proposed refugee projects countrywide received approval with the appropriate assigned priority.

During this same period Mr. Manh Traymany accompanied by Hugh Brady and Paul Rosel of PWD visited Savannakhet and Pakse. During the Savannakhet visit the details and area of the Tasano project were agreed upon with Provincial officials. The proposed access route was examined and preliminary engineering of the access route is now complete. Activity plans are being prepared for the road, the drilled wells, the sawmill and for assistance for refugee housing. The 800-900 refugee families will begin moving into the area in late November. Tasano will be developed into an ORA field project and will eventually encompass 16 villages. The Moung Phalane refugees now living in the Seno Camp will be the first to move into the project area.

A reevaluation of the refugee situation in Pakse resulted in a new relocation project to be located behind the Phou Chiang mountain in the Pakse area which will be a northern extension of the old Oudomsouk project. Brady and Manh met with the Chao Khoueng of Sedone and the AC of Pakse. The Chao Khoueng approved the project area. The main requirement to get the project kicked off is an access road into the area. The road survey is presently being made; the PW construction camp built; and the activity plan being processed. As the road track is cleared village sites will be selected and refugees moved in. Mr. Bob Wulff is acting as project manager of the project.

The Phone Thong project in Champassak has not been cancelled, however, priority of effort will be for the new project on the west bank of the Mekong River. The Phone Thong area will continue to be investigated. A well will be drilled to confirm availability of drinking water in the area. The project will be developed as a backup area in the event an emergency situation occurs in the Sedone area. The major objection to development of the project now is its remote location and the requirement for a 10 kilometer access road through already occupied farmland in order for settlers to build villages in the area.

### III. Personnel

H. E. Keo Viphakone, Secretary of State for Social Welfare, departed on 10 October to attend the Conference on Nutrition and National Development, October 19-21, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Following the conference he will participate in a two week tour of the U. S. under a partial International Visitor's Grant. Roger Sprowls, Food for Peace Officer, also attended the conference, departing Vientiane 15 October.

Ellsworth Amundson returned from home leave on 7 October and resumed his assignment as Refugee Officer with AC/Vientiane.

MacAlan Thompson returned from home leave on 8 October and resumed his duties as Logistics Officer.

#### IV. Food for Peace Program

The report of the Food for Peace Program is attached.

#### V. Logistics and Supplies

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Food Distributed to Refugees</u>	
	<u>September</u> <u>Metric Tons</u>	<u>October</u> <u>Metric Tons</u>
Rice	4,263.0	5,244.9
Meat	380.4	381.0
Salt	158.3	170.9
Cornmeal	117.5	1.8
Noodles	245.3	172.5
Salad Oil	24.5	18.8
Dry Milk	12.3	-0-
Bulgur Wheat	.6	-0-
WSB	4.7	-0-
CSM	10.3	-0-
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5,216.9</b>	<b>5,989.9</b>

ORA:WCLuken:viv

Attachments: 1) FFP Mthly Rpt

2) Mthly Refugee Status Rpt

DIST: OD, DD, AD/M, AD/FIN, AD/FO, AD/PE, AD/RA(5), ESD(2)  
SMB(2), FFPO, C&R(3), AC/Vte, Sby, LP, BHS, Svkt, Pkse,  
XK, All Division Chiefs, Laos Desk-AID/W

FOR OCTOBER, 1971

Population Breakdown By Region

UNEP/UNHCR Project	REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE				REHABILITATION ONLY		Total For Sept	Total For Oct	Net Change
	FULL SUPPORT		PART SUPPORT		For Sept	For Oct			
	For Sept	For Oct	For Sept	For Oct					
REGION I									
Houei So	20,131	16,193	3,154	-	4,061	-	27,350	16,193	-11,163
Phoung	35,901	36,939	-	-	-	-	35,901	36,939	+ 1,038
Phoung	5,375	5,384	1,401	1,401	-	-	6,777	6,785	+ 8
SUBTOTAL	15,791	13,091	-	-	-	-	12,591	12,091	+ 500
Phoung	1,868	2,868	-	-	-	-	2,868	2,868	-
Phoung	10,362	10,362	683	683	-	-	11,045	11,045	-
Phoung	11,112	11,556	5,935	5,534	-	-	122,182	124,090	+ 1,908
REGION II									
Phoung	11,371	713	682	88	-	-	2,353	801	- 1,552
Phoung	11,975	11,455	-	-	-	618	11,975	12,074	+ 99
REGION III									
Phoung	5,200	5,715	13,599	13,370	6,115	6,115	25,014	25,201	+ 187
Phoung	259	259	-	-	992	992	1,251	1,251	-
REGION IV									
Phoung	26,996	26,996	780	780	-	-	27,776	27,776	-
Phoung	8,520	8,520	-	-	-	-	8,520	8,520	-
Phoung	6,991	6,991	-	-	-	-	6,991	6,991	-
SUBTOTAL	102,600	102,625	11,168	7,725			102,600	292,625	- 9,975

Remarks

**BHS:** An eligibility review conducted in connection with the current rice harvest resulted in large decreases in all categories as refugees have obtained self-sufficiency.

**LP:** Military operations in the long Khouay (TH-06 0) and Ban Hat Ko (TG-1725) areas forced 1,038 people to move to the Houei Ko (TH-0817) and Phoung (TH-1607) areas.

**SBY:** To escape P. occupation, 45 Meo moved from Ban Houei Soi (QB-8293) to SBY. Another 38 Meo at Nam Phoui left for military duty and were dropped from support.

**MR II:** Note adjustment in data from the October 29 weekly report: current survey indicates only 500 (not 2,657) refugees moved from S-32 to 20A. The movement took place over a 5 month period, but the refugees continued to be supplied under the N. Rim PDJ quota until late October. Other major changes were due to the reinstatement of support to refugees whose rice reserves have been exhausted and need assistance through the harvest period.

**TKK:** A complete eligibility review found that the majority of refugees have now obtained self-sufficiency and no longer require SAID assistance.

**SVKT:** The arrival in Svkt of a small group of Muong Phalane refugees, and an eligibility review account for major changes during the month.

**PKE:** Major increases in new refugees continue to result from the influx of Paksong Road area refugees total ending Oct = 12,150.

**SDN:** Nothing to report.

**MR V:** No change.