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Food Serv Vaux Branch Monthly Report - April 1971

1. Commodity Summary - Metric Tons

| Commodity | TA 0506 or Auth. | Received GRN and/ or Vien- tiane | Cumulative Diversions to Field Stations from BUE | April | Total | Balance 30-31 |
|-----------|---------------------|---|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| | | | | Issues From VCS | Issues From VCS | |
| Rice | 4800 | 1924 | 92 | 183 | 327 | 1207 |
| C. Meal | 2500 | 1500 | 24 | 1802 | 452 | 448 |
| Oil | 328 | 306 | 1 | 25 | 114 | 18 |
| Wheat | 320 | 220 | 141 | 55 | 71 | 112 |
| Butter | 400 | 245 | 117 | 80 | 117 | 0.5 |
| WFO Milk | 360 | 350 | 7 | 24 | 150 | 27 |
| Veget Oil | 530 | 515 | 13 | 43 | 170 | 123 |
| | 8436 | 5017 | 163 | 380 | 1610 | 2100.5 |

1. Approximately 1,346 Metric Tons in in-transit storage per Bangkok Post Report, April 21-27

2. Majority of this total already issued from field stations:

2. Issued from KM 14 and Km-4 Logging Warehouse stocks.

3. Slight discrepancy in these figures due to normal data accumulation time lag.

TA-0506 authorizes the shipment of 8,436 Metric Tons of Goods; as of this reporting 5,017 tons have been received at Bangkok and of this total 1346 tons (as of latest Post Report April 21-27) are in in-transit storage in Bangkok. Approximately 3671 tons have been shipped to Laos - 124 tons as diversions to field stations, primarily to Ban Houei Sai, and the balance of 3547 tons to Vientiane. As of April 30, 2,108 Metric Tons are in storage at the KM-14 warehouse and 1610 tons have been issued. Most of the 2,108 tons in Vientiane storage is composed of all-purpose flour (1,707 MT) and cornmeal (407 MT) the balance is composed of non-fat dry milk, corn soya milk, wheat soya blend and soy bean oil.

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In establishing the required noodle fabricating capacity it has been necessary to keep the all purpose flour in dead storage longer than originally anticipated. Bulgur stocks have been depleted by diversion to Ban Hanoi 541 to feed needy villagers, and by issuance of supplement food rations being received by Vietnamese Plain refugees. Current meal stocks are adequate for approximately four months. A request is in preparation calling forward the remaining balance of 1,000 MT authorized in the original IA. All other items are in adequate supply based upon current rates of utilization with the exception of Bulgur.

II. Noodle Production

The Km-4 Noodle Factory has been operating under a "Letter of Intent" since April 13. This enabled the noodle factory to submit invoices for payment of noodles made. On April 20, USAID signed a contract with the noodle producer on the basis of a letter from the Ministry of Social Welfare affirming their approval and assistance in helping the producer obtain the required operating license.

During the month of April, 85 Metric Tons of noodles were fabricated. Additional noodle rolling and cutting machines have been installed and four new drying rooms are nearing completion. These additions should increase production in May to at least 200 tons, and 300-400 tons as required in subsequent months. This capacity is needed to utilize existing flour stocks with a minimum of storage loss, and to provide a substantial supplement to the overall refugee feeding requirement.

Noodles currently produced are by dry weight 5% non-fat dry milk, 10% wheat soy blend and 85% flour which produces a noodle with an estimated 12-13% protein content.

Noodles will be included in the drop program over the next two months as a supplement to other food distributed. This is intended as a health measure to increase recipient nutritional intake prior to the monsoon season.

III. Refugee Cotton Cloth and Clothing Manufacture

TA 1607 provides for 360,000 meters broadcloth, 140,000 meter denim, and 17 bales of raw cotton. We have received bills of lading

and advance notice of shipment of 700,000 meters of broadcloth due to arrive Bangkok in early May. AID/W advised arrangements are being made for shipping the balance.

Dagwing refugee clothing projects at Ban Houei Sai and Thakhek are utilizing remaining stocks of PL-480 cotton cloth. Approximately 100,000 meters are stored in Ministry of Social Welfare and USAID facilities at various locations in Laos. Cloth is also issued by the piece to refugees possessing facilities and skill to make their own clothes.

IV. Refugee School Lunch Programs

Operation Brotherhood/Public Health is initiating a pilot school lunch project of four months duration in Ban 7 Lai. As planned the entire school population will receive one glass of milk daily. In addition 30 to 40 malnourished school children will be chosen for a weight and height survey. The latter group will receive a daily meal consisting of PL-480 and other foods. Growth and weight records will be kept on this group. During the life of the project the OB/PH team will teach food preparation, nutrition, environmental sanitation, hygiene and related subjects to both children and mothers.

Project objectives as stated are: "1. to rectify nutritional deficiencies noted among refugee school children; 2. to educate parents and teachers, particularly mothers, in at least one aspect of nutrition and child health; and 3. coordinate with the Office of Refugee Affairs in the implementation and acceptance of the use of PL-480 commodities. It is assumed that, in time, a good percentage of regular rice requirements will be eliminated if it is successfully substituted with PL-480 commodities."

✓ ORA/Pakse has submitted a draft proposal to begin a pilot refugee school lunch project. Additional discussion will be held with PLG Ministries and USAID personnel concerned to determine feasibility of such a project in Pakse.

V. Volagencv PL 480 Title II Program

The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) PL-480 Title II Annual Estimate of Requirements (AER) and Program Proposal (PP) have been submitted and approved by the Mission and forwarded for AID/W approval.

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The CRS food program calls for approximately 2000 Metric Tons of food to be distributed to 46,000 recipients of which 27,000 are refugees on the Vietnamese Plain.

SVP/ORA:RCSproble/TKarciscom:5/12/71