

February 2, 1972

TO : Hunter A. Fitzgerald, EDU/CF
FROM : Larry Woodson, EDU/R *LW*
SUBJECT: Monthly Report for January

Problems:

During the month increased enemy activity forced the closing of additional schools in the following areas:
Muong Kassy, Muong Met, Vang Vieng, and around the LS-272 area.

Primary School Inspector for Xieng Khouang reports 56 of 114 schools closed which effects over 6823 students. Also closed were most of the Houa Phan schools which effects an additional 3,000 students. Of the Houa Phan schools, some were closed on a "wait and see basis".

Project Progress (follow-up on last months report)

At LS-318, two classrooms were completed, teachers were transfered and instruction has commenced for 71 grade 5 and 6 students from Long Tieng. The remainder of the grade 6 students are still in groupe scolaires that have not been effected by enemy activity.

Construction continues ^{on} of the refugee classrooms at Veun Khene's new refugee site. Three classrooms are approximately 50% completed.

The teacher at the Mak Nao refugee village, with the assistance of the older students, completed the repair of the roof on their one-room school. The Nai Ban and the villagers had agreed to repair the school several months ago, but just never got around to doing anything.

Good intentions but limited action is also typical of the Tassong at Mak Hieu. On four consecutive trip he has reported that the villagers will start repairs ~~on~~ the next week. The assistant PSI/VTE/S and myself suggested that the teachers should follow Mak Nao's example and not wait for the villagers, but organize the older students during the hours when gardening or physical education is being taught and repair the school.

Following discussions with both primary school inspectors involved and with the Ministry of Education, permission was received from the Chao Khoueng of Xieng Khouang province to transfer 9 teachers to Paksane. Three teachers are already in Paksane with four more scheduled to go down on February 1st along with school supplies. The remaining two teachers are to report to the PSI/XK later this week.

Project Progress:

Final approval was given for 9 refugee classrooms in Paksane and construction is under way. Construction was delayed for several months as no teachers were available. With the arrival of the teachers, per previous paragraph, instruction can commence upon the completion of the classrooms.

Activity Plan VT-2014 was sent to program office for approval for the construction of 37 permanent refugee classrooms on the Vientiane Plain. Ministry of Social Welfare bulldozers have started leveling for the school sites at Veun Kham and Y-LAI.

In view of the history of education in Xieng Khouang province during the past few years, the following ideas were presented for consideration:

1. Consider setting up training programs immediately for displaced refugee teachers, many of which are idle, while waiting for the situation to improve. For example, over 50 teachers from Long Thieng spent 1-2 months in Pha Khe. Assuming staff, funds and materials could be found training could be started immediately.

2. Consider the possibility of having December, January and February being counted as vacation time and extending the school year up to the middle of August. This, if feasible, could enable some of the 6823 students to continue their education and not lose a year and have to repeat next year.

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PSI DISTRICT

SCHOOLS	S T U D E N T S							TEACHERS			TEMPORARY CLASSROOMS			PERMANENT CLASSROOMS		
	P-1	P-2	P-3	P-4	P-5	P-6	Total	CREC/ Military	RLG	Total	Comp.	In Process	Total	Comp.	In Process	Total
Vientiane Plain	2990	1257	807	425	167	114	5760	40	110	150	124	0	124	0	30	30
Thakhek	102	31	15	0	0	0	148	7	2	9	0	0	0	7	2	9
Vang Vieng	x	x	x	x	x	x	766 ²	0	19	19	14	0	14	6	7	13
Houa Phan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-3 ³	36	80	116	93	0	93	12	0	12
Xiang Khouang	x	x	x	x	x	x	7158 ⁴	50 1168	198	319	172	0	172	31	24 ¹	55
Sayaboury	x	x	x	x	x	x	2194	7	36	43	27	0	27	18	6	24
Luang Prabang	x	x	x	x	x	x	3035	8	25	33	0	0	0	22	35	57
Savannakhet	754	222	60	45	25	7	1113	17	7	24	10	0	10	14	0	14
Berikhan	368	163	63	0	0	0	594	14	11	12	1	0	1	8	0	8
Wepikhanthong	x	x	x	x	x	x	83	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
Sithandone	x	x	x	x	x	x	28	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Pakse	1067	547	384	242	163	202	2604	33	58	91	27	0	27	0	0	0
Ban Houei Sai	x	x	x	x	x	x	3862	51	3	54	54	0	54	32	0	32
							27,345			871	525		525	150		254

x = grade breakdown not available

1. Construction suspended

2. Does not include refugees arriving from Muong Kassy.

3. Temporarily closed per PSI/HP.

4. Decrease due to enemy activity.