

the reception, accommodation and dispersal. The people looked happy and healthy and showed no signs of under-feeding. They mentioned that they had no shortage of rice on the way.

Commander Tamsook also informed the Committee that process of integration was going on well and that he had no major difficulties in performing his task. So far he had received 1119 people. The total number, he was expecting was 4500 and he did not think that his task will be completed by the 18th January, the last day of completion of the integration. After 18th Jan. it is possible that a number of personnel will continue to pass through Plaine-Des Jarres in order to be despatched to their homes. However the actual integration in his opinion would be completed by the deadline 18th Jan. He said that it may even continue in the month of February. He told that the whole route from Sam Neua to Plaine-Des Jarres took 13 days to accomplish and it was divided into sectors. In addition to the rations and stores at various stages, the local villagers were made responsible for looking after the convoy and for rendering any assistance which was necessary. They convoys are divided into groups with suitable persons in charge of each group for the purpose of command and control. The Commandant also told the Committee that there was no difficulty experienced here by the ex-PL in accomplishing the daily stages which were in the vicinity of 20 to 25 kilometres and it took them 13 days to come to Plaine-Des Jarres including 3 to 4 days halt on route. The collecting posts on route were 4 in number namely, HUA MUONG, TAM LA, M NOOI and LAT BOUA and they were connected to Plaine-Des Jarres by means of wireless communication. So by this method Plaine-Des Jarres was kept in fairly good picture as to the progress of the convoy. The total distance to be covered by foot is 250-275 kilometres. The general impression of the Committee was that the Royal Loatian Government had made adequate arrangements, both administrative and welfare, for the foot convoy coming and that there was general contentment and happiness over integration. Fixed Team Xieng Khouang is regularly in contact with the LNA