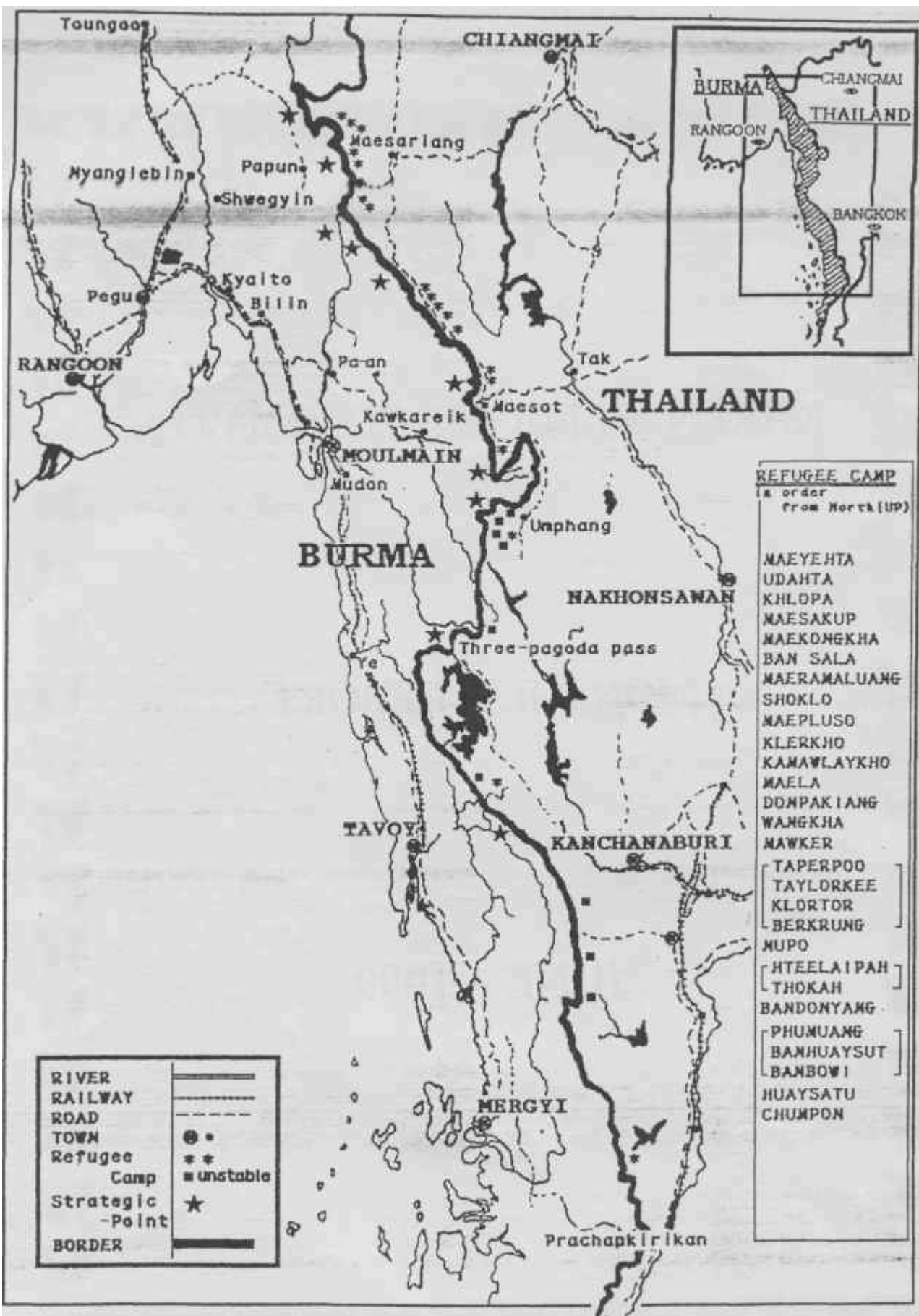


A decorative border of small, stylized butterfly illustrations surrounds the text. The butterflies are arranged in a continuous line along the top, bottom, and sides of the page.

KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 1999.



RIVER	
RAILWAY	
ROAD	
TOWN	
Refugee Camp	
Camp	
unstable	
Strategic Point	
BORDER	

REFUGEE CAMP	
in order from North (UP)	
MAEYEHTA	
UDAHTA	
KHLOPA	
MAESAKUP	
MAEKONGKHA	
BAN SALA	
MAERAMALUANG	
SHOKLO	
MAEPLUSO	
KLERKHO	
KAMAWLAYKHO	
MAELA	
DONPAKIANG	
WANGKHA	
MAWKER	
TAPERPOO	
TAYLORKEE	
KLORTOR	
BERKRUNG	
MUPO	
HTEELAI PAH	
THOKAH	
BANDONYANG	
PHUMUANG	
BANHUAYSUT	
BANBOWI	
HUAYSATU	
CHUMPON	

# KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE.

## JUNE 1999.

With the advent of June, word is out that Wang Kha( Huay Kaloke), and Maw Ker Refugee Camps are to be relocated to a new site at Om Phiem some 86 kilometers south of Mae Sot on the Um Phang High Way. Before this there was persistent rumors of these two Camps to be moved somewhere after the cross-border attacks and burning in March of 1998.

Now that definite decision has been made, preparatory works are being carried out by the authorities concerned and responsible groups, to make the process of moving these Camps, proper and free from mishaps and inconveniences, for, all concerned had experienced and know that relocating over fifteen thousand people over a vast distance, will be no easy matter. The difficulty will be compounded by the fact that rain has already fallen. Moving people in the cold and rain can have grave consequences especially on vulnerable people like the young, the old and the infirm Also, to be taken into consideration is that, building shelters will have to be done in rain and wind and that building material will have to be carried a great distance, in some cases up to a kilometer from the dumping site and where only manpower is available, will prove to be most demanding.

But we are seeing that great effort is being made to provide proper protection for all to be moved. Water supply, Medical Clinics, reception centers and minimum requirements in shelter and living are to be established before the actual shift.

On our side, there is no question that almost all of the Camps population will move to the new site, seeing that the old Camps are very vulnerable to cross-border attacks and the fact that threats of imminent attacks are flying around all the time.

Of conditions inside Burma, indications are that the Military will be attempting to depopulate the border regions in one way of containing the opposition forces. Border Village people are now targeted, having been accused of supporting those opposing the Military.

Whole villages are made to relocate to designated sites leaving behind work / produce, and living support places causing great disruptions and hardships. To make sure that people do not go back to their Villages and work places, the Military has ordered all these vacated places to be mined. Areas made to vacate are declared free fire zones where anyone seen are to be shot on sight. Relocation sites are virtual concentration camps where every movement is to be reported. Relocated people are simply ready source of free labor and portering. Going somewhere to work for living mean family members left behind being held to ransom.

In such a situation, there is expectation that more people will be trying to cross over to seek refuge.

Meanwhile, many concerned people are watching with interest the developments in KOSOVO, where there are incidences of similarity with Burma that fail to escape notice.

But, all things considered, we Karen refugees can feel that we are fortunate in having been given safe Refuge by the Good Host Nation and to have precious support and care, material or otherwise from ever committed Groups and Individuals.

One good note to gladden the hearts of many concerned people -that the European Union approved 4.5 Million Euros in Aid for Refugees along the Thai Border . That on top of many West European Countries and Groups digging in to help.

Which conclusion would mean that the world is not really bad after all.

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE CAMPS JUNE 1999

MAE SOT AREA	CAMP	No. of families	Over 12 YRS		9-12 YRS		Under 8YRS		Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	
	Wang Kha (Huay Ka Lok)	2032	3578	3347	530	527	1378	1325	10685
	Mae La	5402	10218	9574	1772	1703	3389	3215	29871
	Maw Ker	1713	3267	2867	489	464	1276	1205	9563
		9147	17063	15783	2791	2694	6043	5745	50119
NORTH	Mae Ra Ma Luang	1268	2594	2248	506	463	838	851	7500
	Khun Mae Kong Kha And Sa La	1759	3319	3077	687	612	1222	1247	10164
		3027	5913	5325	1193	1075	2060	2098	17664
S O U T H	Noh Po	1524	2589	2399	929	888	551	584	7940
	Ban Don Yang	401	528	569	128	119	278	249	1871
	Tham Him	1654	2339	2381	1037	1017	680	745	8199
	Kho Thay Lu	66	62	82	8	5	54	63	274
		3645	5518	5431	2102	2029	1563	1641	18284
	Grand Total	15819	28494	26539	6086	5798	9666	9484	86067

## RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH

FROM	Rice 100kg sacks	Salt Kilos	F- paste 16kg tins	Yellow Bean Kilos	BL	Mat	Mosquite Net Pes	Chilies Kilos	Cooking Oil 13.75 liter tins	Cooking Fuel Kg.
BBC	7,344	19,750	1,652	69720				6,163	46,092	305,000
COERR	350									

We shall always be grateful to the Thai People and Government for their sympathy and understanding in allowing us safe refuge.

We are also indebted to the NGOs for their Supports and Services.

BBC- Support in Food and Shelter Material.

MSF- Support in Medical and Health facilities.

AMI --

ARC -

MHD -

ZOA( ABWAid)- Support in Educational facilities.

ICS. (Asia)- Support in Educational facilities.

TOPS - Support in Educational facilities.

COERR- Rice and Educational Support.

K.R.C. Mae Sot.