ကမ္ဘတီဟံငြောဒဒိုက်

ကျော်

ပရေငေဖောအဲဗြေဝိညးသူငမန်

MON RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 2004

Aim and Objectives
of Mon Relief and Development Committee

Aim:

Provide temporary shelters, basic needs and development assistance to refugees and the displaced persons who become homeless and helpless situation due to the oppression of Rangoon military regimes in Mon territory along Thailand-Burma border.

Objectives:

1. To help the welfares of the refugees in border areas and IDPs who are displaced inside the country, with foods, shelter and possible protection.

2. To coordinate with local Mon people in developing the grassroots community in the fields of health, education, literacy, agricuture and other rural development projects.

3. To empower the local community for the participation of decision making processes for their own lives and communities.

4. To struggle for the human rights.

The Organization of
Mon Relief and Development Committee

1. Nai Wongsa Pala	- Chairman
2. Nai Kasauh Mon	- General Secretary
3. Nai Dung Htaw	- Member
4. Phra Htaw Son	- Member
5. Nai Glae	- Member
6. Nai Chit Nyunt	- Member
7. Nai Tay Jae	- Member
8. Nai Jon Dae	- Member
9. Nai Chan Done	- Member

Monthly Report of Mon Relief and Development Committee
(April 2004)

Food Supplies for the Returned Refugees

While the Mon refugees are on the half way in their return to homes, they have faced a lot obstacles in terms of sufficient food production, getting available livelihood and finding regular income. Due to the Need Assessment in late 2003, the returned Mon refugees have very lack of food production in their own resettlement sites and no available livelihood for all seasons in all resettlement sites: Halockhani, Bee Ree and Tavoy.

Among the resettlement camps, the returned refugees in Tavoy camp face a worst situation. Because of the movement of the Burmese Army round this resettlement site, the people in the site could have a very limited opportunity to go to their farms. Only a few families get lands close to the site, the remaining families even though they need lands for agriculture lands but they have not dared to extend their farming activities.

For the refugees in Halockhani resettlement site, although the security situation in 2003 improved, however, they could not find many available income for their survival. As more the troops of Burmese Army and Democratic Buddhist Karen Army (DKBA) have been deployed in Ye Township area, the refugees in Bee Ree resettlement site also face difficult in traveling and trading.

As the Need Assessment found more needs for food supplies, the international donor agencies decided to provide food supply especially rice, with 50% of the total need for refugees in Halockhani and Bee Ree, and 66% of the total need for refugees in Tavoy resettlement site. Because the refugees in Tavoy camp face most worst situation in term of security and food production.

Besides food supply or rice provided by international donor agencies through MRDC, the refugees have to find the remaining sufficient rice by themselves. As most of them did not have many types of livelihood or businesses, to get money and buy rice, they have tried to grow paddy in their agriculture lands as much as possible.

As we have found in the previous years, after they could not sufficient rice from combining of rice supplies by MRDC and rice produced from the agriculture lands near the sites, the refugees in all sites have to buy rice from markets outside of their resettlement sites. The refugees in Halockhani resettlement site bought rice from Thai market in Sangkhlaburi town and traders imported the required rice, while the refugees in both Bee Ree and Tavoy resettlement sites could get their rice from Mon State's rice markets.

Besides rice, the refugees also have to raise income to buy other types of foods. All of them must have to buy salt and fish-paste as their basic foods. Most of the families in the site grow their own vegetables in their small gardens and therefore, they do not have to buy vegetables. However, most of them have to buy meats except the time they could catch fishes. Normally, the prices of meats are expensive and most families could not buy meats on a regular basis, because they do not have sufficient income.

Additionally, the families also have to buy chilli, cooking oil, onion and others to make their daily. Most of these things are traded from a far market and the prices are expensive.

And, they also have to sugar, milks, tea and others for daily use. Similarly they have to find household basic materials. Hence, all families have to find sufficient income to buy the above-mentioned things.

But we have found that most of the families could not seek sufficient income to buy all of these things. As an instance, the refugees in Halockhani could get income only from selling broom-grasses and cutting of bamboo-shoots. They could get income only about 3-4 months and they need to use these money for the whole year. These incomes are anyhow insufficient to buy several things that they needed for individuals and for the whole family. More terribly, the refugees in Tavoy resettlement site could raise money less than the refugees in Halockhani and most families even could not buy many types of foods. They have saved their money just for buying salt and fish-pastes. Many families could not get meats in their meals if they are unable to catch fishes.

The food supply or rice provided by international donor agencies would provide for their survival. If they could not get this food or rice, they might face a serious food-shortage problems in all resettlement sites. Even though they could not get other types of supplementary foods, 'rice' is so important for them traditionally and if they could get rice, they would survive and manage not to not face food-shortage problems.

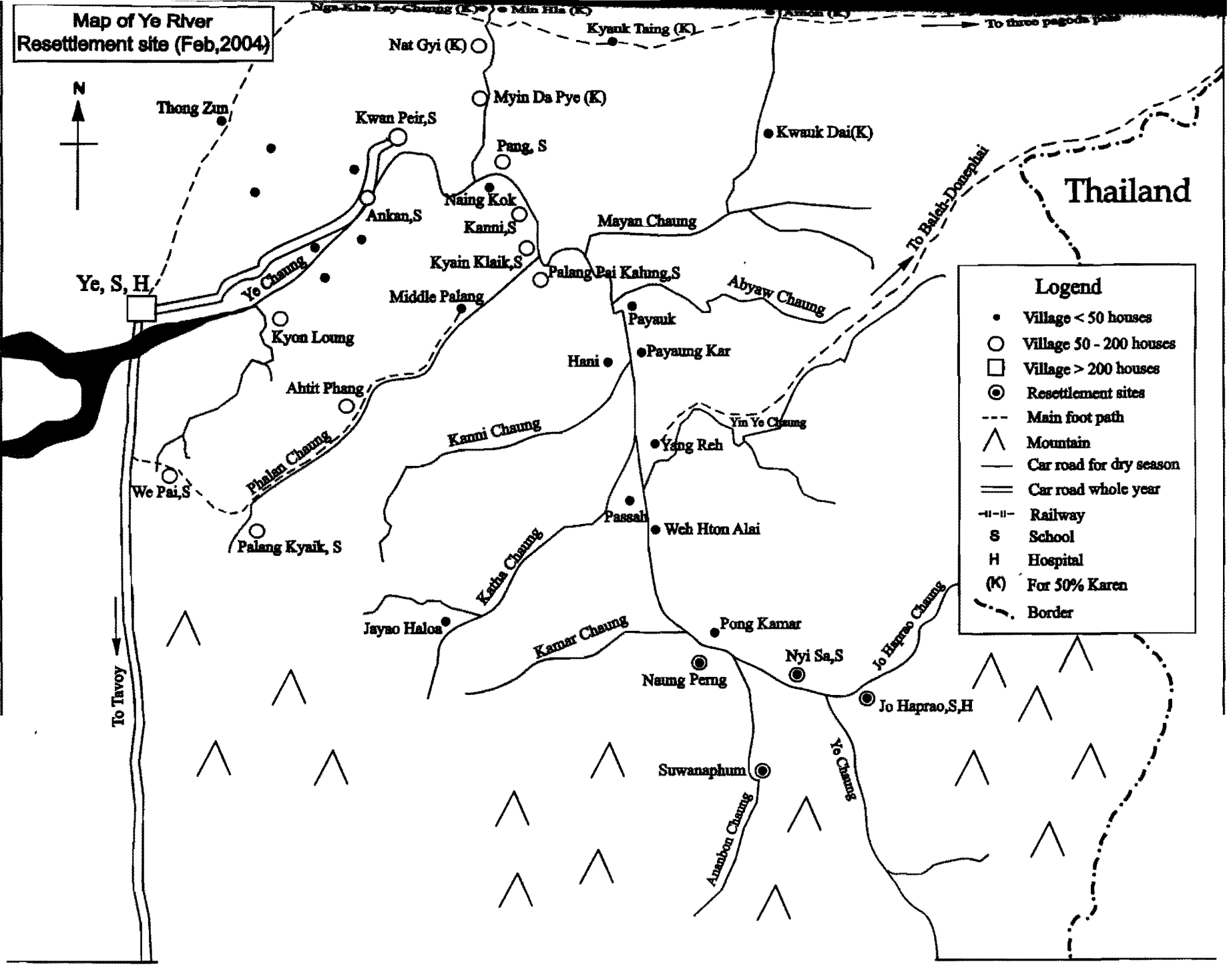
Since Burma does not have stable political settlement along Thailand-Burma border, both hundreds of thousands of displaced persons, half-way returned refugees and local villagers could not set their stable life. Therefore, the political resettlement between the current regime and the ethnic nationalities along Burma's borders are urgent required.

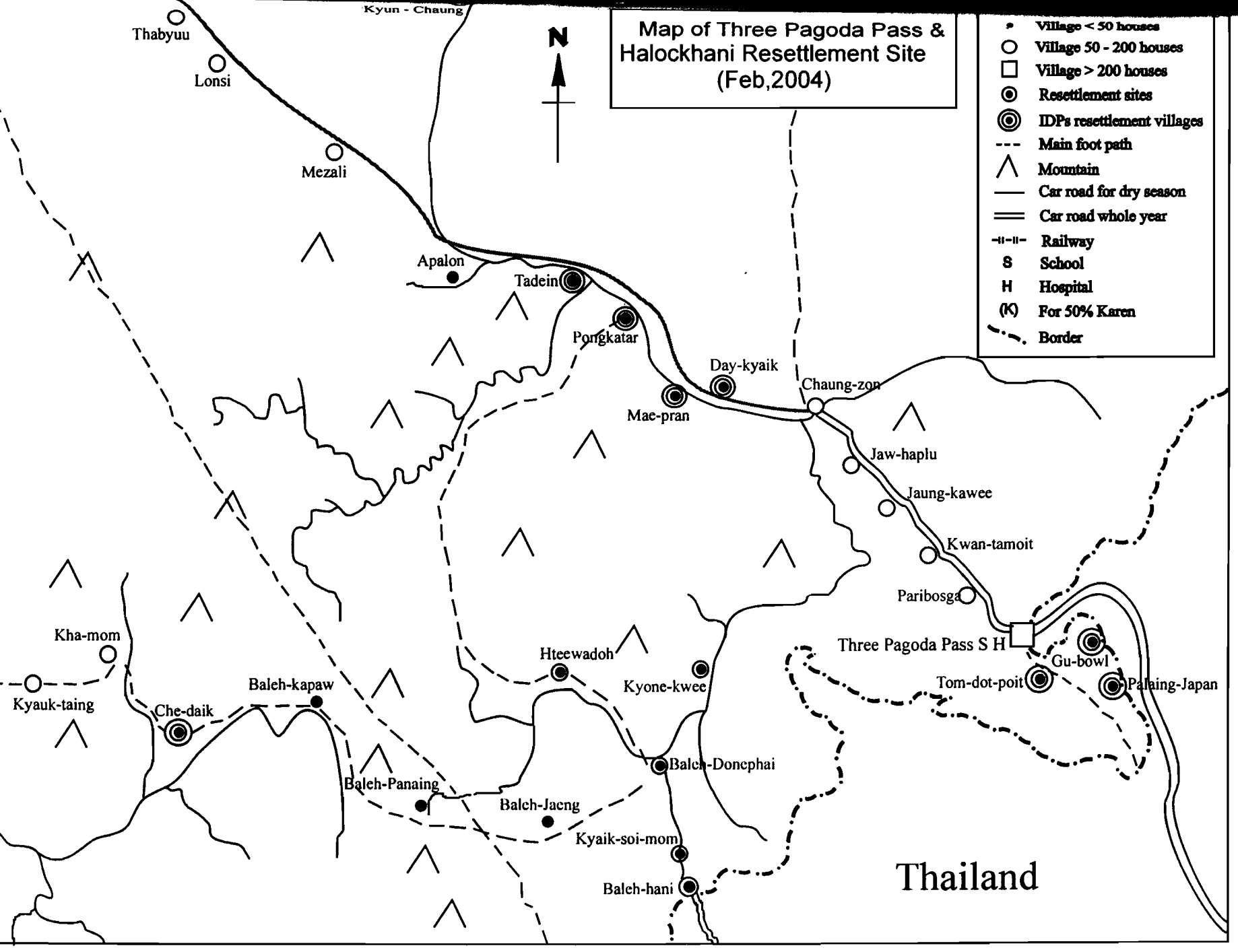
THE REFUGEE POPULATION OF THE THREE RESETTLEMENT SITES
(April, 2004)

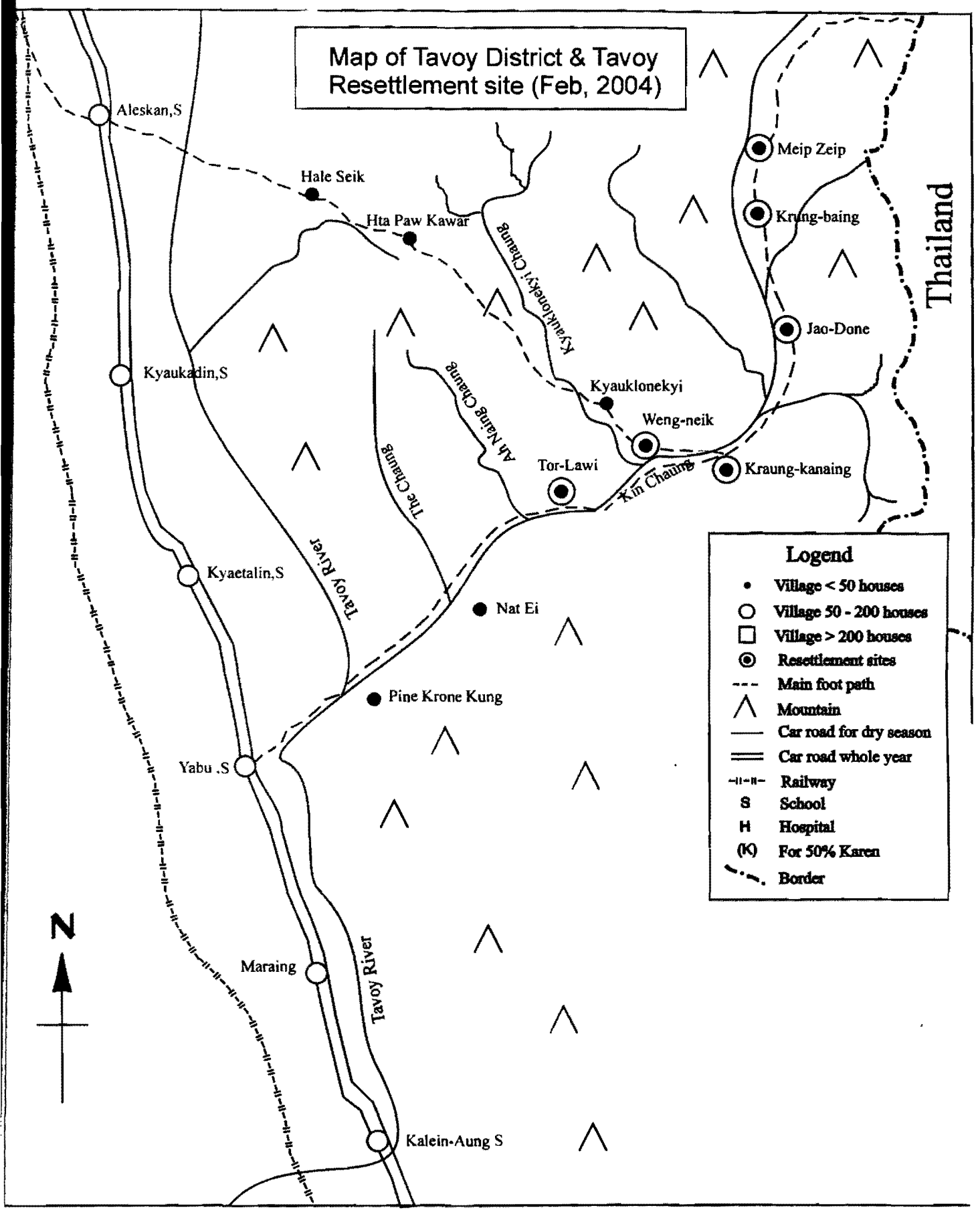
No.	Camp	Number of Family	Over 12 years		5-12 years		Under 5 years		Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	
1	Bee Ree	687	1210	1317	415	421	176	199	3738
2	Tavoy	611	1039	1035	389	384	185	187	3219
3	Halockhani	943	1653	1602	812	664	289	349	5379
	TOTAL	**2257**	**3902**	**3954**	**1616**	**1476**	**650**	**735**	**12336**

THE MATERIALS RECEIVED BY THE MON RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(April, 2004)

No	Organization	Rice (Sack/ 50 kg.)	Fish Paste (kg.)	Salt (kg.)	Bean (Kg.)	Remark
		2400	-	-		
	TOTAL	**2400**	-	-		


Map of Ye River
Resettlement site (Feb,2004)
N
Nga-Khe Lay-Chaung (K)
Min Hla (K)
Kyauk Taing (K)
To three pagoda pass
Nat Gyi (K)
Myin Da Pye (K)
Thong Zun
Kwan Peir,S
Pang, S
Kwauk Dai(K)
Thailand
Naing Kok
Ankan,S
Kanni,S
Mayan Chaung
To Baleh-Donephai
Kyain Klaik,S
Palang Pai Kalung,S
Ye, S, H
Ye Chaung
Middle Palang
Abyaw Chaung
Payauk
Kyon Loung
Hani
Payaung Kar
Ahtit Phang
Yin Ye Chaung
Kanni Chaung
Yang Reh
Phalan Chaung
We Pai,S
Passah
Weh Hton Alai
Palang Kyaik, S
Katha Chaung
Jayao Haloa
Pong Kamar
Kamar Chaung
Jo Haprao Chaung
Nyi Sa,S
Naung Perng
Jo Haprao,S,H
To Tavoy
Suwanaphum
Ye Chaung
Anambon Chaung
Logend
Village < 50 houses
Village 50 - 200 houses
Village > 200 houses
Resettlement sites
Main foot path
Mountain
Car road for dry season
Car road whole year
Railway
S School
H Hospital
(K) For 50% Karen
Border


Map of Three Pagoda Pass & Halockhani Resettlement Site (Feb,2004)
N
Village < 50 houses
Village 50 - 200 houses
Village > 200 houses
Resettlement sites
IDPs resettlement villages
Main foot path
Mountain
Car road for dry season
Car road whole year
Railway
S School
H Hospital
(K) For 50% Karen
Border
Kyun - Chaung
Thabyuu
Lonsi
Mezali
Apalon
Tadein
Pongkatar
Day-kyaik
Mae-pran
Chaung-zon
Jaw-haplu
Jaung-kawee
Kwan-tamoit
Paribosga
Three Pagoda Pass S H
Gu-bowl
Tom-dot-poit
Palaing-Japan
Kha-mom
Kyauk-taing
Che-daik
Baleh-kapaw
Hteewadoh
Kyone-kwee
Baleh-Doncphai
Baleh-Panaing
Baleh-Jaeng
Kyaik-soi-mom
Baleh-hani
Thailand


Map of Tavoy District & Tavoy Resettlement site (Feb, 2004)
Aleskan,S
Hale Seik
Hta Paw Kawar
Kyaukadin,S
Kyaetalin,S
Yabu ,S
Maraing
Kalein-Aung S
Meip Zeip
Krung-baing
Jao-Done
Thailand
Kyauklonekyi Chaung
Kyauklonekyi
Ah Naing Chaung
The Chaung
Tavoy River
Weng-neik
Tor-Lawi
Kraung-kanaing
Kin Chaung
Nat Ei
Pine Krone Kung
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