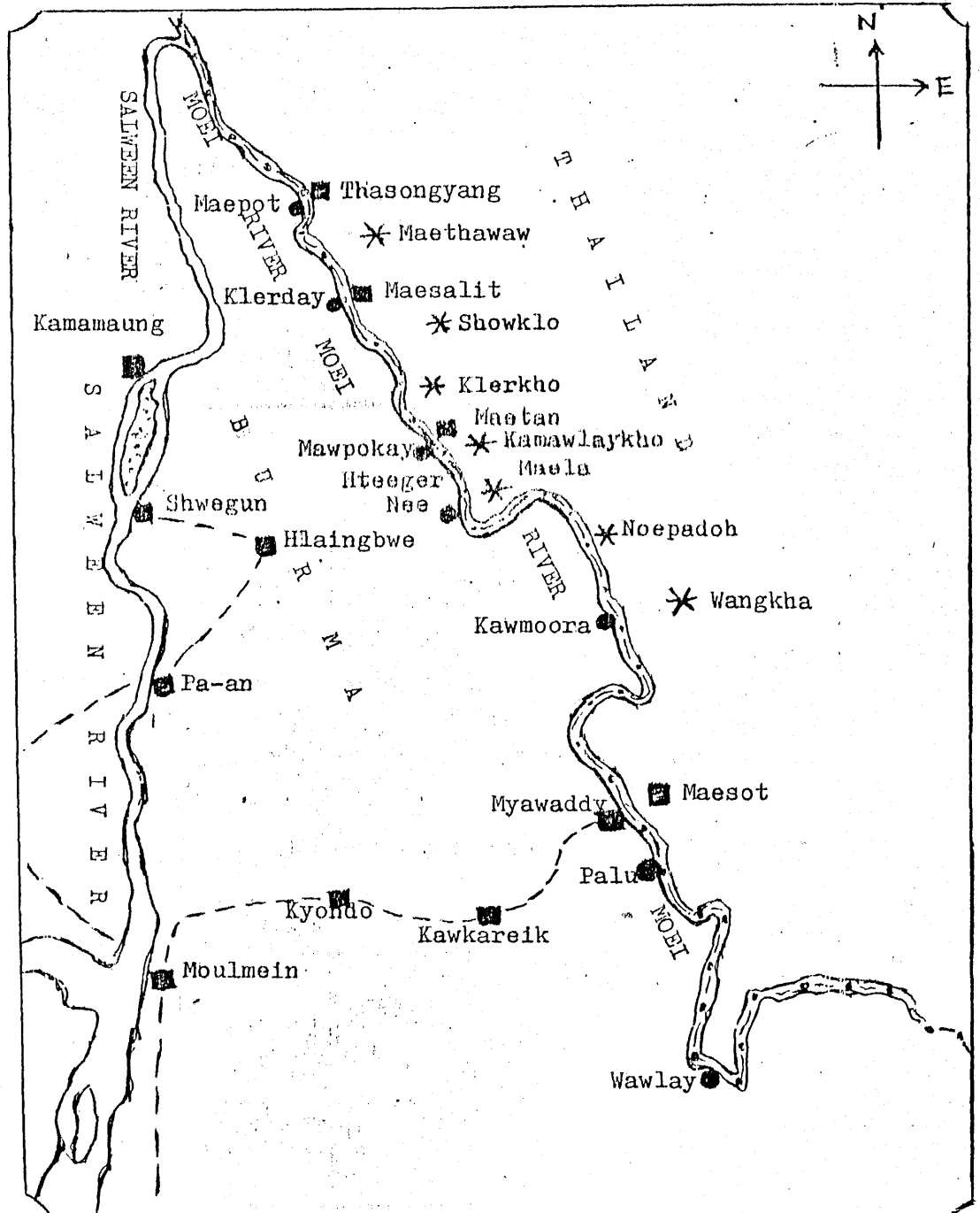


KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1985



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We express our sincere gratitude to the agencies and individuals who have provided assistance to the Karen refugees during the month of April. We also express our sincere gratitude to the Thai authorities and to the Thai people for their kindness in allowing us to stay on in their land. We are also much indebted to M.S.F., M.A.P. and M.D.M. for their valuable services towards better health condition for the Karen refugees. We are hard pressed on every side but can still survive only through your kindness in meeting our various needs.

This report for the month of April shows a great increase in the refugee inflow. These new comers are from villages east and west of the Salween river around Kamamaung and Hlaing Bwe - namely, Ta Maw Yah, Ma Eh, Htee La Neh, Yin Baing, Meh Zaik, Kwi Lay and Htee Tha Daw Hta villages etc. The Burmese troops bombarded these villages with mortars and artillery inflicting heavy casualties on innocent villagers. The villagers were forced to leave their villages and sought shelters in the nearby woods. The Burmese troops later entered the deserted villages and burned down the houses together with the rice granaries. Countless villagers who were discovered were rounded into concentration camp in Kamamaung where they were ill fed and tortured. The lock houses were so crowded with these ill-fated villagers that the Burmese troops dug large open pits and put them, ten in each pit. Because of these inhumane atrocities these villagers no longer dare to stay in their villages and so fled to the safety of the refugee camps. They had to walk for four or five days to reach the camps, bringing hardly anything with them in their hasty flight to safety.

The Karen masses also have to suffer similar hardships in other places as well. During the recent Burmese offensive in Nabu township, in Wa Kluh Pu village alone 72 oxen, 37 buffaloes 30 goats were killed by The Burmese troops for their ration. Many houses and 5 granaries were burned down. 11 bullock carts were destroyed and one innocent villager Saw Kya Hkar was killed by the Burmese troops. Other villages also shared the same fate. Even the abbot of Nabu Tagundaing village monastery was looted of 2,000 Kyats and a wrist watch. These are only a few and incomplete statistics obtained from those who had seen their own houses

and granaries burned down, their properties looted and their live stocks slaughtered. Countless number of similar incidents slipped away unnoticed and unreported.

Villages such as, Swea Tay, Mah Pee, Hin Tha Wen, Kyun Gyi, Padehgaw of Shwegyin District, the area classified by the Rangoon government as "WHITE" i.e. where there is no resistance against the regime, the innocent villagers are being subjected to inhuman oppressions. According to the information given by a refugee mother Baby Moe, the Rangoon government specified an order that all the farmers must sell 50 baskets of paddy per acre as an obligation from their harvest produce. The maximum production per acre from these farmlands yield only an average of 35 baskets per acre. To supplement the required yield, the farmers had to buy paddy at Kyats 20/- per basket from elsewhere for fear of punishment. The price per basket sold to the government is only K.9/- incurring therefore tremendous difficulties for these farmers who could barely survive on their meagre production.

Although rice quota was short supplied, every camp has been allotted with appropriate distribution during the month of April. Salt and fish paste supply is also short of the required quota. The refugees managed to grow some vegetables in what little space is available near their houses and they can find some vegetables in the forest.

Present Number of Refugees in all Camps

<u>Name of Camp:</u>	<u>No. of Fam:</u>	<u>Over 5 Yr.</u>	<u>Under 5 Yr.</u>	<u>Total:</u>
Wangkha	497	1019	743	1762
Maela	168	582	232	814
Kamaw Lay Kho	221	802	258	1060
Kler Kho	253	1100	155	1255
Show Klo	865	2998	603	3601
Mae Tha Waw	527	2735	237	2972
Noe Pa Doh	110	391	126	517
Total:-	2641	9627	2354	11981

Description of the various conditions of each camp

Maela:- 42 families have increased totaling 228 persons. 5 new families from the villages and 37 families from Show Klo camp moved back to this camp.

Kamaw Lay Kho:- 14 families from Show Klo camp comprising 76 persons moved into this camp.

Show Klo:- Some residents moved to other refugee camps but some new families moved into this camp.

Mae Tha Waw:- 108 new families comprising of 702 persons moved into this camp.

Noe Pa Doh:- 26 new families comprising of 101 persons moved into this camp.

There is no variation in the number of refugees in Wangkha and Kler Kho camps.

Rice Received during April 1985

1) Consortium of Christian Agency	...	700 sacks
2) International Christian Aid	...	300 "
3) American Karen Agency	...	88 "
4) Christ Church (Rev. John Morrett)	...	300 "
5) Apostolic Nunciature	...	200 "
6) Rev. Larry Jones	...	40 "
Total:-	...	1628 sacks

Need & Supply of Rice:-

<u>Name of Camp:</u>	<u>Over 5 Yr.</u>	<u>Under 5 Yr.</u>	<u>Need:</u>	<u>Supply:</u>
Wangkha	1019	743	232	233 sacks
Maela	582	232	116	100 "
Kamaw Lay Kho	802	258	155	130 "
Kler Kho	1100	155	196	180 "
(in last week of March)			-	20 "
Show Klo	2998	603	549	485 "
Mae Tha Waw	2735	237	475	413 "
Noe Pa Doh	391	126	75	67 "
TOTAL:-	9627	2354	1798	1628 sacks

Need & Supply calculated On:-

- 1) Over 5 Yr. = 1 unit
Under 5 Yr. = $\frac{1}{2}$ unit
- 2) 1 unit = 1 four-gallon tin
- 3) 6 four-gallon tins = 1 sack
- 4) 1 sack = 100 Kgs.

Rice Distribution:-

<u>Name of Camp:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Donors</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Wangkha	6/4/85	International Christian Aid	100 sacks
	15/4/85	Apostolic Nunciature	93 "
	25/4/85	Rev. Larry Jones	40 "
Maela	6/4/85	International Christian Aid	100 "
Kamaw Lay Kho	5/4/85	Consortium of Christian Agency	130 "
Kler Kho	4/4/85	Consortium	180 "
	(Consortium - in last week of March)		20 "

<u>Name of Camp:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Donors:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Show Klo	4/4/85	Consortium of Christian Agency -	85 sacks
	6/4/85	International Christian Aid-	100 "
	16/4/85	Consortium	100 "
	17/4/85	Apostolic Nunciature	50 "
	21/4/85	Christ Church (Rev.J.Morrett)	150 "
Mae Tha Waw	5/4/85	American Karen Agency	85 "
	"	Consortium	25 "
	16/4/85	Consortium	100 "
	"	A.K.A.	3 "
	17/4/85	Apostolic Nunciature	50 "
	24/4/85	Christ Church (Rev.J.Morrett)	150 "
Noe Pa Doh	4/4/85	Consortium	60 "
	15/4/85	Apostolic Nunciature	7 "
TOTAL:-			1628 sacks

CREDIT:-

Indebtedness in March 1985 ... £ 316,240.00
Amount paid in April 1985 to reduce indebtedness:-
(a) Rev. Larry Jones ... 51,900.00
(b) Kawthoolei Government ... 50,000.00
Total:- £ ... 101,900.00
Current balance of indebtedness:- £ 214,340.00

Items Received:

1) International Christian Aid ... Fish Paste 100 tins
... Dry Fish 64 pk.
... Chilli 18 sacks
... Canned Fish 71 boxes
... Salt 50 sacks
2) Consortium of Christian Agency ... Chilli 1000 Kgs.
... Fish Paste 115 tins

Items Distribution:-

<u>Name of Camp:</u>	<u>Fish Paste:</u>	<u>Dry Fish:</u>	<u>Chilli:</u>	<u>Canned Fish:</u>	<u>Salt:</u>
Wangkha	14 tins	9 Pk.	2 sacks	10 box.	6 sac.
Maela	7 "	5 "	2 "	5 "	3 "
Kamaw Lay Kho	9 "	7 "	2 "	8 "	4 "
Kler Kho	11 "	8 "	2 "	8 "	6 "
Show Klo	29 "	17 "	4 "	19 "	16 "
Mae Tha Waw	25 "	14 "	4 "	17 "	12 "
Noe Pa Doh	5 "	4 "	2 "	4 "	3 "
Total:-	100 tins	64 Pk.	18 sacks	71 boxes	50 sac.

Items Distribution:-

<u>Name of Camp:</u>	<u>Fish Paste:</u>	<u>Chilli:</u>
Wangkha	-	122 Kgs.
Maela	21 tins	89 "
Kamaw Lay Kho	27 "	89 "
Kler Kho	55 "	132 "
Show Klo	-	361 "
Mae Tha Waw	-	207 "
Noe Pa Doh	12 "	-
Total:-	115 tins	1000 Kgs.

We pray to God with a firm belief that through His grace and your compassionate coordination, we shall obtain our daily bread. Our sincere thanks once more to everyone for all the kindness shown to us.

I remain.

Yours faithfully,



Pastor Robert **Htwe**

Chairman

Karen Refugee Committee