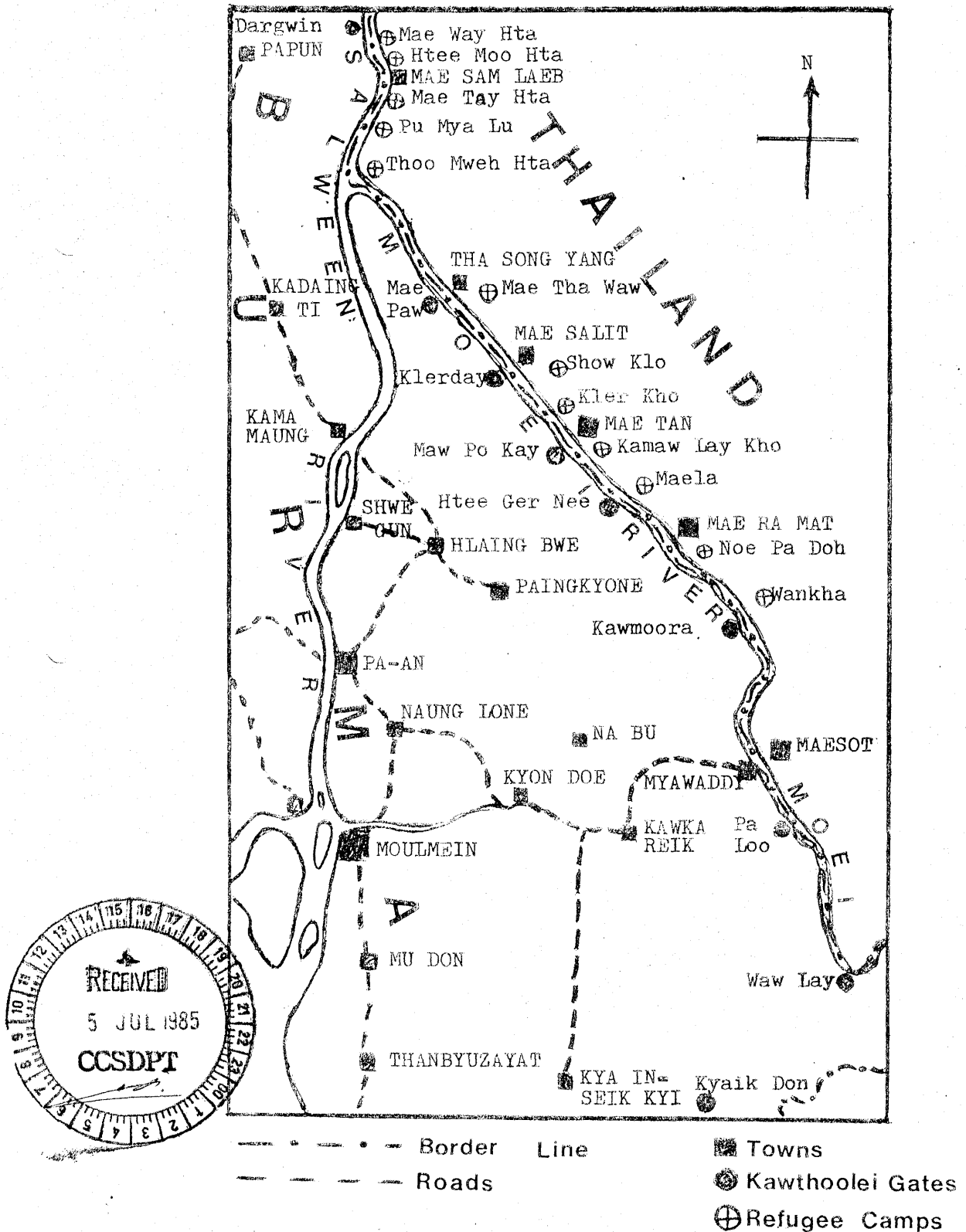


KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 1985



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The committee expresses its sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude to all the agencies and organizations which have been providing valuable assistance to the Karen refugees in the time of need. The plight of these refugees has dragged on for more than a year but there is no sign that it will be over soon. In fact, we are sad to say that the number of refugees is increasing day by day.

Had it been just because of the fighting between opposing forces, these innocent villagers would not have taken the trouble to leave hearths and homes and settle in the refugee camps. There have been thousands of Karen civilians who find it hard to move to the refugee camps and so all through last year they stayed in hiding in the hills and existed on the rice which they harvested the previous year and managed to hide. Even in hiding some were able to grow rice but the situation v/as not so favourable and they harvested only a small amount which cannot see them through another year.

To make matters worse, the present military operations carried on by the Burmese army is targeted mainly on these villagers in hiding, rather than on the Karen resistance fighters. Burmese troops combed the hills and dales in search of them. All the houses and rice stocks that were discovered were burnt or destroyed. Some captured villagers were killed and women were raped. So, these villagers were at their wit's end. In poverty, starvation and fear for their lives and safety,, they finally had to turn to the refugee camps for help and shelter. If this anti civilian campaign still goes on, then, more and more people will be coming to the refugee camps.

Situation in the Papun side is no better off. The map on this month's report shows five new refugee camps that have to be opened because of the atrocities identical to those mentioned earlier. These villagers are from areas east of Papun. They learned in advance of the Burmese military operation which, began in February and so were able to shift some of their rice to safety. But now most of their food have been used up and they are presently in need of food, 814 people have requested for

help up to November. They are gathered in email groups in different places so that each family will have enough space to grow rice for their own use. It is anticipated that they will be able to stand on their own after harvest time.

There has been an outbreak of measles and dysentery in the refugee camps and until now it has not abated totally as yet. 17 people had died in Mae Tha Waw camp, 2 in Show Klo and 3 in Wankha because of this malady. Every effort is given to have the disease in check. Pneumonia is also reported lately in Noe Pa Doh camp.

PRESENT NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN ALL CAMPS

NAME OF CAMP	FAM.#	ADULT		CHILDREN		INFANT		TOTAL
		OVER-12 YR.		5 - 12 YR.		UNDER - 5 YR.		
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
WANKHA	461	370	775	205	203	172	190	1915
MAELA	223	264	336	133	141	82	95	1051
KAMAW LAY KHO	209	298	431	114	113	76	67	1099
KLER KHO	271	491	510	173	146	37	163	1520
SHOW KLO	980	1436	1697	478	596	335	364	4906
MAE THA WAW	556	955	1141	348	358	210	224	3236
NOE PA DOH	131	135	191	72	65	71	55	589
TOTAL:-	2831	3949	5081	1523	1622	983	1158	14316

NEED OF RICE FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1985

NAME OF CAMP:	OVER-12 YR.	UNDER-5 YR.	NEED OF RICE
1. WANKHA	1553	362	289
2. MAELA	874	177	160
3. KAMAW LAY KHO	956	143	171
4. KLER KHO	1320	200	237
5. SHOW KLO	4207	699	759
6. MAE THA WAW	2802	434	503
7. NOE PA DOH	463	126	87
TOTAL:-	12175	2141	2189

NEED OF RICE 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 RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE-1985

<u>Sr.#</u>	<u>Agency:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
1.	Consortium of Christian Agency (June 1, 1985) ...	700 sacks
2.	Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees (June 6, 1985) ...	150 "
3.	Presiding Bishop's Fund (June 17, 1985) ...	300 "
4.	German Agro Action (June 25, 1985) ...	600 "
5.	Full Gospel Church (June 28, 1985) ...	100 "
TOTAL:-		<u>1850</u>

RICE DISTRIBUTION TO CAMPS

<u>Name of Camps:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Donors:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	<u>TOTAL:</u>
1. Wankha	17/6/85	COERR	10	
	25/6/85	G.A.A.	200 ...	210
2. Maela	25/6/85	G.A.A.	95 ...	95
3. Kamaw Lay Kho	14/6/85	Consortium	85	
	25/6/85	G.A.A.	5 ...	90
4. Kler Kho	4/6/85	Consortium	200 ...	200
5. Show Klo	5/6/85	Consortium	250	
	14/6/85	Consortium	40	
	17/6/85	P.B.F.	150	
	25/6/85	G.A.A.	200	
	28/6/85	F.G.C.	50 ...	690
6. Mae Tha Waw	7/6/85	Consortium	125	
	15/6/85	COERR	105	
	17/6/85	P.B.F.	50	
	19/6/85	P.B.F.	100	
	25/6/85	G.A.A.	50	
	28/6/85	F.G.C.	50 ...	480
7. Noe Pa Doh	12/6/85	COERR	35	
	25/6/85	G.A.A.	50 ...	85
TOTAL:...				<u>1850</u>

ITEMS RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1985

1. International Christian Aid	- Gift boxes	... 1047 boxes
	- Fish Paste	... 120 tins
	- Salt	... 60 sacks
	- Dry Fish	... 1500 pk.
	- Noodle	... 2000 pk.

ITEMS RECEIVED -

2. Consortium of Christian Agency - Fish Paste ... 400 tins
- Salt ... 30 sacs

ITEMS DISTRIBUTION

<u>CAMP</u>	<u>Fish Paste:</u>	<u>Salt:</u>	<u>Dry Fish:</u>	<u>Noodle:</u>
Wankha	108	12	573	-
Maela	59	6	239	-
Kamaw Lay Kho	68	7	-	293
Kler Kho	50	10	-	395
Show Klo	120	27	-	1127
Mae Tha Waw	85	24	688	-
Noe Pa Doh	30	4	-	185
	520	90	1500	2000

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Remarks; Gift boxes were distributed to sponsored children only.

Conclusion:

We are much indebted to all those concerned who have been doing their best to make life much easier for us. The future of the Karen refugees is very bleak and uncertain. We really wish to see the happy day when the Karen refugees can go back to their homeland and live peacefully once more. **But** when this day will arrive cannot be anticipated. Until that happy day we will still be counting on our benefactors for further help and support. It is our earnest wish and prayer that all our benefactors will enjoy God's richest blessings for all the noble deeds that they have done for us.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,



Pastor Robert Htwe
Chairman
Karen Refugee Committee