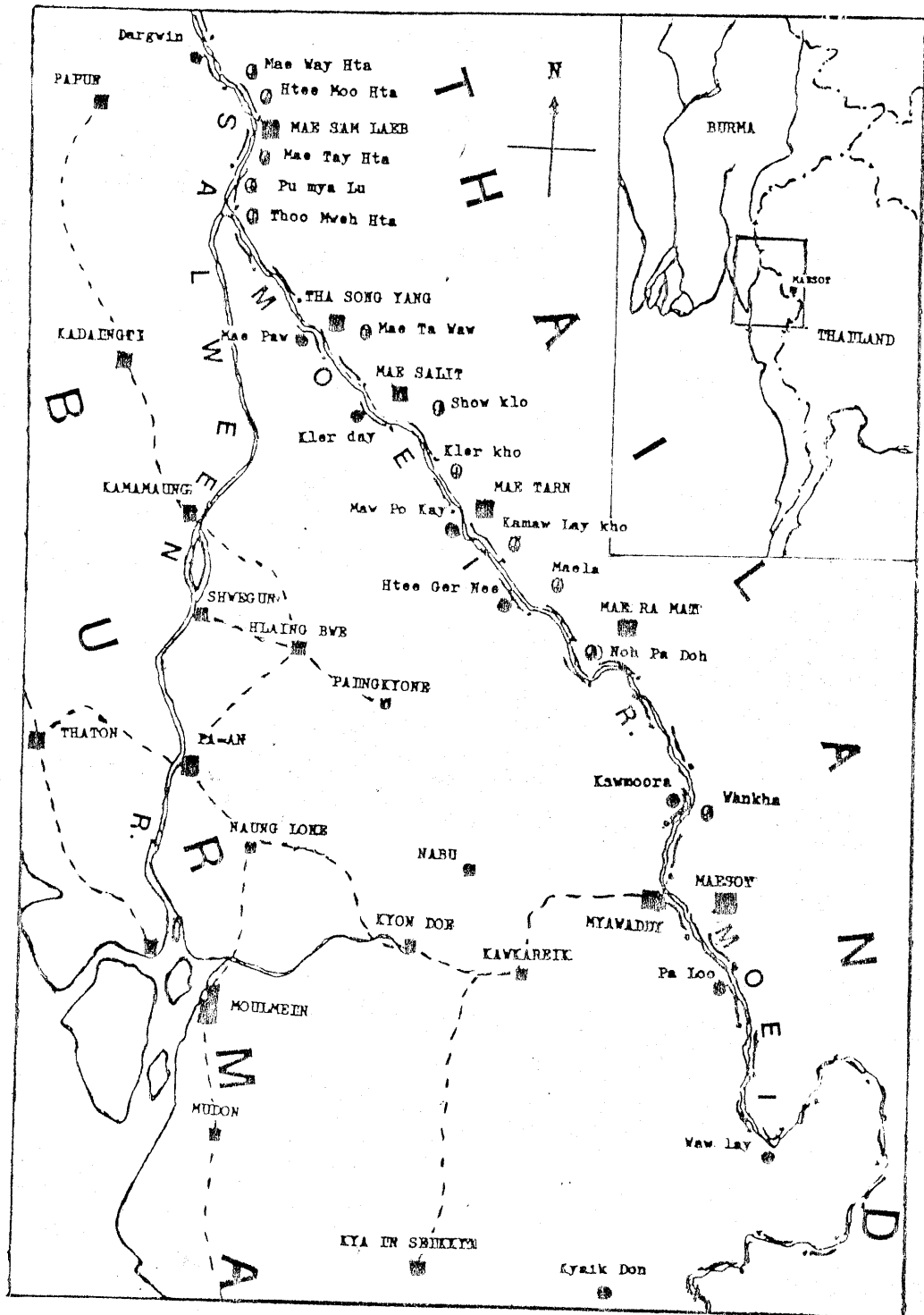


KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE MONTHLY REPORT

AUGUST 1985



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The Karen Refugee Committee expresses its sincere gratitude to all the agencies and organizations which have been providing valuable and vital assistances to the refugees. The ever increasing number of refugees had created a greater need for food and it causes great anxiety to the committee. But we are truly glad to say that great effort has been made on the part of our benefactors to do what they can and so the refugees still get their daily bread. Apart from food, they have been provided with other essential commodities which are very beneficial to them.

The number of Karen refugees is ever increasing. Some visitors who had been to the camps had had the chance to hear the personnel testimonies of refugees arriving very recently* They told of the terrible hardships they had been made to bear and the life of constant fear which they had led under the Burmese military supervision. All of them asserted, that in this present situation many more are bound to come to the refugee camps.

The story of Hsart Kalay and family of 5 is typical of the systematic oppression the refugees had to go through.

Their village, Waklekla of about 100 houses, is about 3 miles from Shwegun town where the Burmese keep a large concentration of troops. Some time in March this year, the villagers were made to set up 4 tiers of fences around the village. Ten soldiers were stationed there. The villagers have to stand sentinel, day and night, They have to pay rice and money, 2 or 3 times a month, to the soldiers for protection.

The villagers are made to repair roads, clear bushes and plant bamboo spikes around the village. When there are military operations, the men are press ganged into the labour force to carry heavy loads of supply and ammunition for months on end. Three villagers Par Loo Kle, Kaw Poe and Taklaw had been killed while on porter duty.

With the coming of monsoon, the villagers are allowed to go out to work in the fields, but they are not allowed to take along any food nor build huts. They are not allowed to sleep outside the village. Any body coming in late or staying outside for the night are shot to death. Thus, villagers Maung Ngwe Khin, Maung Shwe Tin and Par Kawnaw had been shot to death. In July, one Poe Ti was taken away and nothing about him has been heard since. If someone disappears, the whole family is held responsible. The villagers have to pay heavy fines or suffer severe beating if they run afoul of minor regulations.

The villagers are now completely destitute and thoroughly terrified. Things are certain to get worse since they have nothing more to pay and very little food left to eat.

Finally Hsart Kalay and family came to realize that life anywhere could not be worse than that of under the Burmese control. So they decided on the course of fleeing to the border, risking certain death if discovered.

On August 2, they left the village early pretending to go to work in the fields and took the jungle route to the border to avoid Burmese patrol. It was very fortunate that none of them fell ill on the way inspite of the fact that they had to eat anything edible they could find on the way, They arrived at the border on August 17, taking 16 days to cover a journey that would normally take 5 days,

The health situation is more or less normal now. The most common diseases are malaria and colds. Beginning from early monsoon the number of patients from the camps who have to be transfered to Maesot hospital increases. Medical expenses for these patients are taken care of by M S F.

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PRESENT NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN ALL CAMPS

NAME OF CAMP: FAM.#	OVER-12 YR.		5 - 12 YR.		UNDER-5 YR.		TOTAL	
	M	F	M	F	M	F		
WANKHA - သံဃာ	510	480	794	185	201	182	163	2005
MAELA - သံဃာ	249	366	298	145	138	113	87	1147
KAMAW LAY KHO -	261	333	427	114	102	108	110	1194
KIER KHO	269	423	485	174	149	106	132	1469
SHOW KLO	1203	1824	2155	564	582	513	488	6126
MAE THA WAW	548	888	1079	370	368	207	236	3148
NOE PA DOH	125	136	188	73	56	59	52	564
SALWEEN	147	256	256	91	89	53	69	814
TOTAL:-	3312	4706	5682	1716	1685	1341	1337	16467

NEED & SUPPLY OF RICE FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1985

NAME OF CAMP:	NEED:	SUPPLY:
WANKHA	305	275
MAELA	175	175
KAMAW LAY KHO	180	175
KIER KHO	225	210
SHOW KLO	938	1000
MAE THA WAW	487	440
NOE PA DOH	85	85
SALWEEN	125	65
TOTAL:-	2520	2425 Sacks

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 AUGUST 1985

<u>Sr.# Agency:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
1. German Agro Action	600 Sacks
2. Consortium of Christian Agencies	700 "
3. Presiding Bishop's Fund	300 "

Sr.# Agency:Amount:

4. Church of Christ	95 Sacks
5. Full Gospel Church (Rev. Nirut Chandkorn)	100 "
6. C O E R R	150 "
7. International Christian Aid	285 "
8. Rev. Larry Jones	200 "

TOTAL: 2,430 Sacks
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RICE DISTRIBUTION

<u>CAMP:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Donors/Agency:</u>	<u>Rice:</u>	<u>TOTAL:</u>
Wankha	31/7/85	G.A.A.	115	
	5/8/85	F.G.C.	100	
	19/8/85	COERR	60 =	275 Sacks
Maela	31/7/85	G.A.A.	100	
	7/8/85	Church of Christ *	45	
	"	Rev. L. Jones	30 =	175
Kamaw Lay Kho	31/7/85	G.A.A.	100	
	7/8/85	Church of Christ *	45	
	"	Rev. L. Jones	30 =	175
Kler Kho	5/8/85	Con:	210 =	210
Show Klo	31/7/85	G.A.A.	200	
	2/8/85	Con:	250	
	12/8/85	P.B. Fund	200	
	16/8/85	I.C.A.	200	
	21/8/85	COERR	90	
	"	Rev. L. Jones	60 =	1000
Mae Tha Waw	8/8/85	Con:	240	
	12/8/85	P.B. Fund	100	
	16/8/85	I C A	85	
	"	Rev. L. Jones	15 =	440
Noe Pa Doh	31/7/85	G.A.A.	85 =	85
TOTAL:				2360
Salween	20/8/85	Rev. L. JONES	65 =	65
				2425 =====

* Five sacks of rice from Church of Christ are kept for those who attend to the sick in Maesot hospital.

Items for male & female nurses from MSF.

1. Cooking oil	222 bottles
2. Dried Fish	180 kgs.
3. Onion	150 kgs.
4. Soap	444 pcs.

5. Canned Fish	444 cans
6. Sugar	180 kgs.
7. Condensed Milk	444 cans
8. Yellow bean	180 kgs.
9. Kerosene oil	37 pails
10. Potatoes	30 kgs.

OTHER ITEMS

From - G.A.A.
(31/7/85)

Fish Paste	1540 kgs. (77 tins)
Sardines	15000 cans (150 boxes)
Salt	3000 kgs. (60 bags)
Chilli	1000 kgs. (100 boxes)

From - Consortium
(10/7/85)

Fish Paste	237 tins
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From - I.C.A.

Blankets	360 pcs.
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From - COERR

Mosquito nets	500 pcs.
Prawn paste	50 tins
Chilli	131 kg.
Used clothes	20 packages
Powdered milk	50 bags
Piglings	8 nos.

From - Z O A

Notebooks (large)	2020 pcs.
Notebooks (small)	11865 pcs.
Ball pens	5561 pcs.
Pencils	5561 "
Color pencils	1173 boxes
Wax crayons	2000 "
Color books	3200 pcs.
Chalk	120 boxes
Pot - 22 cm.	200 pcs.
Frying pan	200 "
Serving spoons	200 "
Stir-fry utensil	200 "
Plate - 22 cm.	1000 "
Table spoons	1000 "
Kettle - 20 cm.	200 "

The 8 piglings are kept in Wankha camp. 47 bags of powdered milk are handed over to MSF to be used as needed and the remaining 3 bags will be sent to the hospital at Pu Mya Lu camp.

School supplies received have been distributed to the camp schools in accordance with the list prepared by ZOA for distribution.

Camp leaders have been asked to submit the number and names of families that are really in need of kitchen utensils. It will be given to 200 families that had moved in recently.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTION

<u>Camp:</u>	<u>F. Paste:</u>	<u>Sardine:</u>	<u>Salt:</u>	<u>P. Paste:</u>	<u>U. Clothes:</u>	<u>Chilli:</u>
Wankha	10	30	10	10	-	20
Maela	10	15	10	-	3	10
Kamaw Lay Kho	10	15	5	-	3	10
Kler Kho	54	10	7	-	5	10
Show Klo	157	40	14	25	-	25
Mae Tha Waw	54	35	12	15	7	20 + 131 kg.
Noe Pa Doh	19	5	2	-	2	5
TOTAL:-	314	150	60	50	20	100 + 131 kg.

<u>Camp:</u>	<u>Mosquito nets:</u>	<u>Blankets:</u>
Wankha	50	-
Maela	30	50
Kamaw Lay Kho	50	50
Kler Kho	50	50
Show Klo	200	100
Mae Tha Waw	100	80
Noe Pa Doh	20	30
TOTAL:-	500	360

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CONCLUSION

We will forever be indebted to all our benefactors for their unfailing help in many ways to make life much easier for us. The refugees are fully aware of the situation they are in and are trying whenever possible to help themselves. With the ever increasing number of refugees, things are really difficult but we can see the Hand of God working for us in this moment of hardship. We truly appreciate the sincere sympathy shown to us by friends abroad and it is our earnest wish and prayer that all our benefactors will enjoy God's richest blessings. It is also our earnest wish and prayer that the noble deeds done for us as well as for refugees around the world will contribute greatly to the betterment of humanity and the promotion of peace.

I remain.

Yours faithfully,



Robert Htwe

Chairman

Karen Refugee Committee