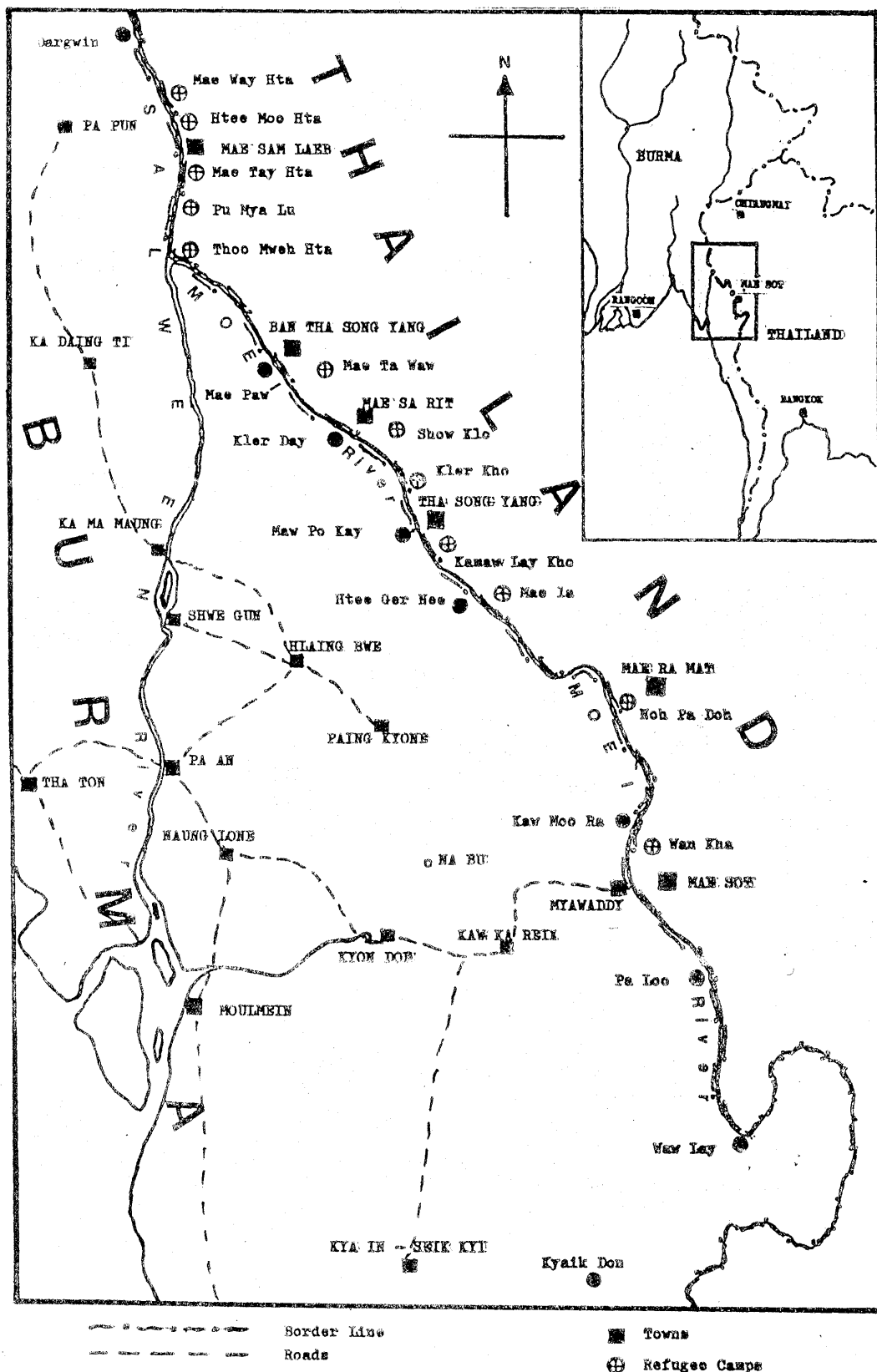


4 Nov 85

# KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

## MONTHLY REPORT

### OCTOBER 1985



KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 1985

The Committee expresses its heartfelt gratitude to all the agencies and organizations which have been doing their best to help the Karen refugees in this time of trouble and need. Our report for this month shows a decrease of 594 persons in the total number of camp population. But this cannot be construed, as some refugees had finally moved back across the border for good. More than 150 families had simply moved back across the border to harvest the rice they had grown. If everything goes well and the situation doesn't grow worse, these people will be able to settle down on the Karen side and stand on their own for some time. The camp leaders have been instructed to make a record of rice obtained by each family from this harvest and this will be included in our report for November.

Life for many thousands of Karen civilians under the Burmese remains desperate, miserable and unbearable. Many are set on fleeing to the border, but as a great increase in the camp population could make it most difficult for us to meet their many needs, we have tried to dissuade these people from coming. Even then, some 50 families comprising of more than 200 people have to be admitted into the refugee camps because of the extreme danger they would certainly have to face had they stayed on in their villages.

On the whole, we shall have to say that the situation is still as critical as ever. Those who have gone back across the border for harvest are living and working in constant fear for their own lives and safety. If the situation worsens all of them are bound to move back to the refugee camps. Another factor to note is that the Burmese military campaign against Karen civilians have largely been in Hlaing Bwe township. But recently this anti-civilian campaign has crossed-over to Paing Kyone township, further south, as well. Considering the fact that refugees from Hlaing Bwe township alone amounted to more than 10,000 people, then Paing Kyone township can also send forth, more or less, the same number of people into the refugee camps.

The health situation is more or less normal at present. The International Rescue Committee, I.R.C. has started a project in the Karen refugee camps for better environment sanitation. The Karen Refugee Committee has appointed two environmental Health Officers to work with the IRC sanitarian who will be working in the camps for three months.

The Karen Refugee Committee will still be counting on the agencies and organizations for further help and support. Without this continuing help and support the fate of the Karen refugees will just be unthinkable.

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	475	525	806	207	201	179	206	2124
MAELA	294	425	370	165	144	129	97	1330
KAMAW LAY KHO	255	313	425	165	140	87	84	1214
KLER KHO	245	426	453	161	162	73	75	1350
SHOW KLO	1363	1874	2497	723	738	492	491	6815
MAE THA WAW	512	642	918	372	383	200	221	2736
NOE PA DOH	126	175	175	93	53	53	48	597
	3270	4380	5644	1886	1821	1213	1222	16166
SALWEEN	147	256	256	91	89	53	69	814
TOTAL:-	3417	4636	5900	1977	1910	1266	1291	16980

RICE RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1985

1. German Agro Action	...	700 Sacks
2. Consortium of Christian Agencies	...	700 "
3. International Christian Aid	...	314 "
4. Full Gospel Church (Rev. Nirut Chandkorn))	...	100 "
5. Apostolic Nunciature (Archbishop Renato R. Martino)	...	200 "
6. Presiding Bishop's Fund	...	400 "
7. Rev. Larry Jones	...	150 "
8. Consortium of Christian Agencies	...	87 "
TOTAL:-	...	2,651 Sacks

NEED OF RICE PER PERSON PER MONTH 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.

ITEMS RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1985

German Agro Action (24/9/85) - Chilli Powder ... 2,000 Kg.(200 boxes)  
 - Fish Paste ... 2,000 Kg.(100 tins)  
 - Salt ... 4,000 Kg.( 80 bags)  
 - Fish Powder ...25,000 small packets

Consortium of Christian Agencies      - \*Sickles      ...      100 Pcs.

(\*Sickles are distributed to Show Klo camp only)

NEED & SUPPLY OF RICE FOR OCTOBER 1985

<u>NAME OF CAMP:</u>	<u>NEED:</u>	<u>SUPPLY:</u>
1. WANKHA	322 Sacks	315 Sacks
2. MAELA	202 "	200 "
3. KAMAW LAY KHO	188 "	*280 "
4. KLER KHO	213 "	220 "
5. SHOW KLO	1,054 "	1,064 "
6. MAE THA WAW	421 "	400 "
7. NOE PA DOH	91 "	85 "
	<u>2,491</u> "	<u>2,564</u> "
8. SALWEEN	125 "	87 "
TOTAL:-	2,616 Sacks	2,651 Sacks

(\*The need of rice this month for Kamaw Lay Kho camp is 188 sacks. But because of some misunderstanding 280 sacks had been distributed to the camp during October. So this will see them through up to the middle of November.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTION

<u>NAME OF CAMP:</u>	<u>CHILLI</u>	<u>FISH PASTE:</u>	<u>SALT:</u>	<u>FISH POWDER:</u>
WANKHA	26	-	10	3,125
MAELA	15	12	6	1,875
KAMAW LAY KHO	17	-	6	2,000
KLER KHO	19	-	8	2,250
SHOW KLO	75	50	30	9,750
MAE THA WAW	40	30	16	5,000
NOE PA DOH	8	8	4	1,000
	200 boxes	100 tins	80 bags	25,000 pk.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CONCLUSION

With the coming of harvest time, the Karen Refugee Committee anticipate that a small percentage of the need for food will be met for some time by the refugees themselves. We thank the organizations concerned for providing necessary materials so that this can be accomplished. It is our earnest wish that the harvesting can be done peacefully.

We thank all the agencies and organizations once more for understanding us and our troubles. The care and concern that you have shown together with your unfailing help in many ways will always be remembered and cherished by the Karen refugees. We will still be counting on all of you for further help and support\*

May God's richest blessings be yours for all the noble deeds that you are doing for us, the least of your brethren.

I remain.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Htwe', with a stylized, cursive script.

Robert Htwe

Chairman

Karen Refugee Committee