KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

MAY 1996

97°30′
98°00′
Weagyi
4324
6116
Kyaukkyi
3959
Maesariang
Kahteehta
6178
Papun
18°00′
Dagwin
Maesamleb
SOP MOEI
4879
Pawhta
Maepaw Moo Kta
Mae Lai Ma Luang
4754
Maepohta
THAILAND
4044
4308
Kadaingti
Maetawaw
Ban-Thasongyang
3783
17°30′
Maesalit
Shoklo
Maeseik
3074
4839
Klerkho
THASONGYANG
Maetan
Kamamaung
Kamawlaykho
Bilin
Shwegun
Hlaingbwe
5430
Maela
6214
17°00′
Paingkyone
6293
MAE RAMAT
Donpaklang
Thaton
PA-AN
3290
Kawmoorat
Wang Ka
Nabu
MAESOD
BURMA
Kyondoe
Myawadee
Kawkareik
Martaban
16°30′
POPPHRA
MOULMEIN
5934
Mawkel
3963
Mudon
Walay
6825
5197
4882
Kyaikkami
Kyainseikkyi
Kyaikdon
Umpang
16°00′
97°30′
98°00′
98°30′
BURMA
THAILAND
1/1,000,000
(1cm=10Km)
HEIGHT IN FEET
Border
River
Road
Railway
Town
Village
Strategic
-Point
Refugee
-Camp
High-Hill

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The rainy season seems to have set in now, rather early this year. Apart from some fighting that broke out on May 19, 1996 opposite to Nong Bua village of Tha Song Yang District, the situation along this stretch of the Thai-Burma border had been relatively quiet throughout the month of May. A case of looting however occurred in Sala camp of Mae Sa Riang District on the night of May 26, 1996. Armed personnel from across the Salween river came into the camp, looted a shop and threw grenades before they escaped. One camp resident was wounded in the grenade blast.

The Thai authorities are following the refugee situation more closely now and in Tha Song Yang District of Tak Province, steps are taken in conjunction with the Karen Refugee Committee to conduct a new round of survey and registration of the Mae La and Sho Klo camp population. Camp identification card will be issued to camp residents aged 12 years and above. It is believed that this same measure will also be taken in the other camps as well at a later stage.

For residents in the various camps and especially for residents of Mae La and Sho Klo camps, travelling has become greatly restricted now. Special permission from the district office is to be obtained first if for some reason, residents of these two camps need to travel to places outside of the jurisdiction of Tha Song Yang District.

In Mae Ra Mat District, another 58 families of displaced Karen from Burma who had been living on their own in various places outside of the camp were rounded up during the month and brought into Don Pa Kiang camp.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE CAMPS.

	CAMP	No.of families	Over 12 YRS		5-12 YRS		Under 5 YRS		Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	
MAE SOT AREA	Wang Kha (Huay Ka Lok)	1219	2024	2292	665	623	582	545	6731
	Don Pa Kiang	718	1204	1098	331	329	336	323	3621
	Mae La	3809	8771	8094	3552	3446	1374	1392	26629
	Sho Klo (Mae Song)	1128	2428	2445	1058	1080	317	307	7635
	Maw Ker	1149	2240	2124	580	542	775	696	6957
		8023	**16667**	**16053**	**6186**	**6020**	**3384**	**3263**	**51573**
NORTH	Mae Ra Ma Luang	780	1472	1347	498	455	337	316	4425
	Khun Mae Kong Kha	437	712	791	343	343	224	241	2654
	Sa La	275	570	504	189	148	92	101	1604
	Mae Sa Kup	337	646	646	223	200	131	160	2006
	Khlo Pa	242	506	461	184	170	112	106	1539
	U Da Hta	265	581	491	189	194	118	124	1697
	Mae Ye Hta	299	632	519	228	184	138	115	1816
		2635	**5119**	**4759**	**1854**	**1694**	**1152**	**1163**	**15741**
SOUTH	Ta Per Poo	424	886	620	256	211	127	149	2249
	No Pa Doh (Nong Luang)	131	248	204	87	87	53	56	735
	Noh Pa Htaw Wah	367	726	623	161	191	163	167	2031
	Mae Ta Raw Khee	699	1429	1424	772	655	236	272	4788
	Htee Hta Baw	377	655	642	308	291	171	138	2205
	T Kwee Klaw	162	250	270	85	102	73	58	838
		2160	**4194**	**3783**	**1669**	**1537**	**823**	**840**	**12846**
Grand Total		**12818**	**259S0**	**24595**	**9709**	**9251**	**5359**	**5266**	**80160**

RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH

FROM	ITEMS			
	Rice/sacks	Salt/Kgs	F.Paste/tins	Pressed Saw Dust/bundles
B B C	7,550	15,800	3,173	* 11,260
COERR	350	-	-	-
Total	**7900**	**15,800**	**3,173**	**11,260**

*Mae La Camp only - 3 bundles/ family

DISTRIBUTION OF RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED

CAMP	RICE	SALT	F. Paste
	SACKS	KGS	tins
Wang Kha (Huay Ka Lok)	1044	2400	416
Don Pa Kiang	494	1250	198
Mae La (area)	4064	7500	1635
Sho Klo	1218	2350	490
Maw Ker	1080	2300	434
Total	**7900**	**15800**	**3173**

ITEMS RECEIVED FROM- M. KAREN REFUGEE AID TEAM

Cooking oil 18 liter, tins	Yellow bean 60/ kgs. bags	Sardine cans	Ajinomoto 500 gms. pkt	Soap Pcs	Mosquito net Pcs	Jacket Pcs (LL)	Jacket Pcs (LLL)
1.000	190	26.340	8.780	26.340	2,000	1.000	1.000

DISTRIBUTION OF OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED

CAMP	ITEMS							
	Cooking oil	Yellow bean	Sardine Can	Ajinomoto	Soap	Mosquito	Jacket (LL)	Jacket (LLL)
Mae La	420	80	11,190	3,730	11,190	840	420	420
Don Pa Kiang	70	13	1,815	605	1.815	140	70	70
Sho Klo	140	27	3,696	1,232	3,696	280	140	140
Wang Kha	135	26	3,564	1,188	3,564	270	135	135
Maw Ker	130	25	3,429	1,143	3,429	260	130	130
Ta Per Poo	45	8	1,167	389	1,167	90	45	45
Noh Pa Don	15	3	378	126	378	30	15	15
Noh Pa Htaw Wah	45	8	1,101	367	1,101	90	45	45
Total	**1,000**	**190**	**26,340**	**8,780**	**26,340**	**2,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**

The Karen Refugee Committee expresses its sincere gratitude to the Thai authorities and to the people of the Kingdom of Thailand for the kindness and understanding they have shown in granting refuge to the Karens and to other displaced people from Burma who are in trouble and need. The committee is fully aware that, unless for this kindness and understanding manifested in the name of humanity, the refugees would not be able to survive. This noble gesture of goodwill is sincerely appreciated and will always be remembered.

The Karen Refugee Committee also expresses its sincere gratitude to the individuals and agencies concerned for their help and support in many ways and through the years to make life easier for the refugees. The commitment of all those involved in this mission of mercy is sincerely appreciated and will also be remembered by all of us.

The situation is relatively quiet for the moment but the refugees are still living in an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty. But deep in their hearts flickers a faint ray of hope for better days to come. They long for peace, genuine and honourable peace to come back to their greatly troubled land. It is disturbing to note however that civilians in many parts'of Burma continue to go through very difficult and perilous times. The world should not lose sight of this. The people of Burma are desperately crying out for help. They count on the help and support of all peace loving people around the world.

I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

Robert Hrwe
Chairman
Karen Refugee Committee.