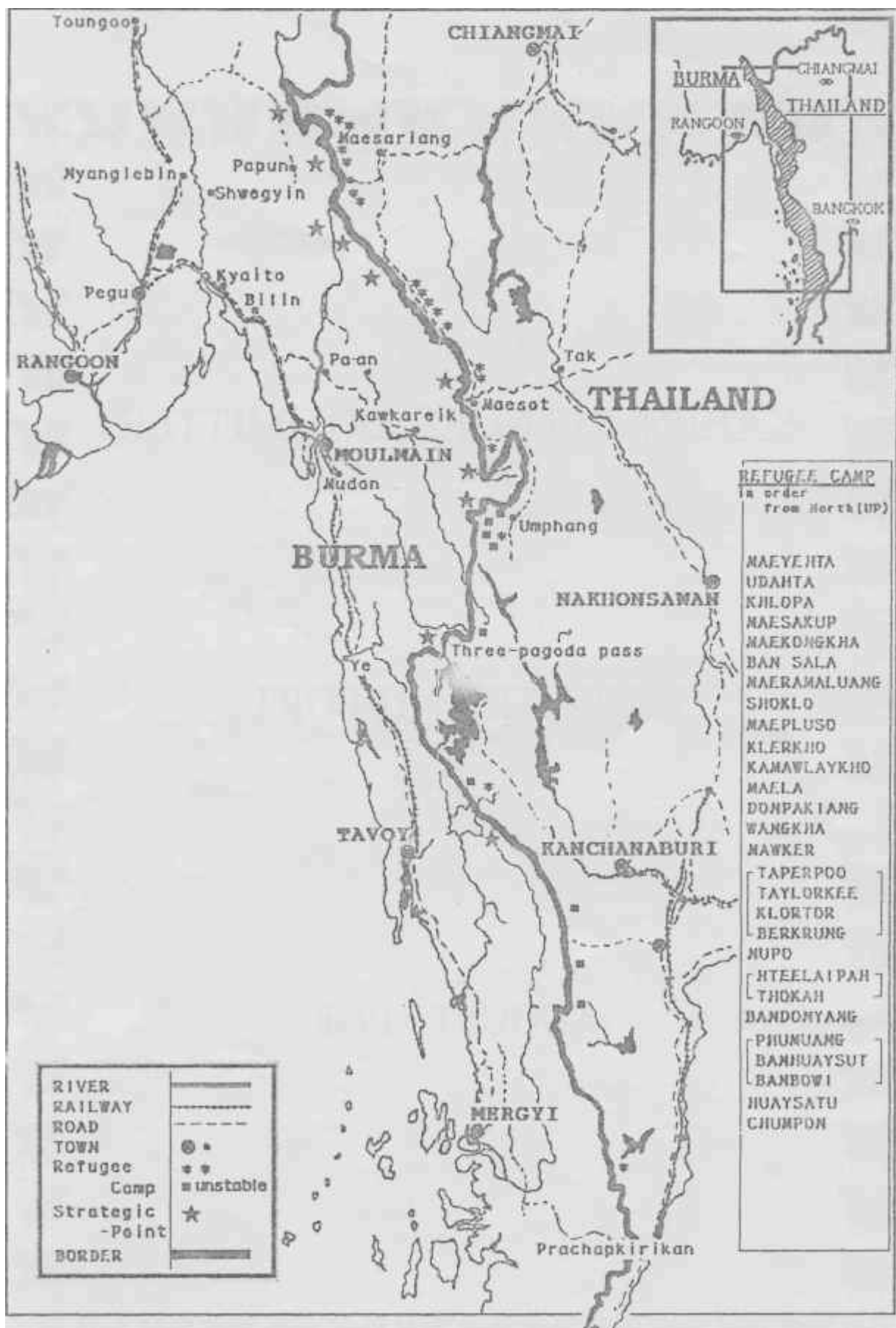


KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

AUGUST 1998



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August can be called the month of Explosions. On August 24<sup>th</sup> in AD -79, the volcanic Mt . Vesuvius in what is now Italy, erupted, burying the Roman Cities of Pompeii Herculaneum and Strabiae under fiery lava and ash: killing thousands in the process.

On August 27<sup>th</sup> , in 1993, Mt-Krakatau in the East Indies erupted in what was said to be the most powerful explosion in recorded history. The immense tidal wave generated by the eruption killed thirty six thousand people in nearby Java and Sumatra. Many parts of the world were greatly affected. Ash from the eruption coloured sunsets around the world for two years.

Not to be outdone, Man showed that he can match Nature in producing great detonative power. On August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1945, an Atomic Bomb was dropped on Hiroshima . The explosive power was such that the whole city was obliterated.

Another Atomic Bomb was dropped on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 1949, destroying the city of Nagasaki. Unto this day , Man's passion in playing with fire-works continue. The explosions heard recently in Nairobi, and Dar-es-salam and the retaliatory ones in Sudan and Afghanistan attest to that.

Today, explosive power possessed by man is believed to be hundreds of times more powerful than the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Nuclear Power in the hands of Man at this moment is powerful enough to destroy Mother Earth a hundred times over.

We, as Refugees, can only view with alarm, the continuation of Man's explosive pursuits. As on-spot witnesses of the capacity of Man to inflict harm on his fellow being -killing , maiming and blinding for the sake of promotion of self or Cause-we are in the best position to know and fear such continuation of Man's misdeeds.

Explosions, whether man-made or otherwise will surely affect the environment. We are hearing of great climatic affectations- the hottest month on record, the green-house effect, the Ei Nino, droughts, floods, hurricanes, the Big Haze global warming and so on.

In sum, we can doubtless reason , that if the trend were to continue , Man will one day find himself unable to secure a place of Refuge on this planet, a dying Mother Earth.

Then, there will be no more Refugees, nor for that matter, the Human Race.

Karen Refugee Committee  
Mae Sot.

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### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE CAMPS.

MAE SOT AREA	CAMP	No.of families	Over 12 YRS		5- 12 YRS		Under 5 YRS		Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	
	Wang Kha (Huay Ka Lok)	1625	2951	2780	918	803	480	500	8432
	Mae La	4943	10185	9291	4429	4084	1504	1576	31069
	Maw Ker	1349	3038	2613	799	715	642	628	8435
		7917	16174	14684	6146	5602	2626	2704	47936
NORTH	Mae Ra Ma Luang	1216	2478	2146	937	752	521	521	7356
	Khun Mae Kong Kha And Sa La	1951	3914	3556	1390	1355	749	831	11795
		<b>3176</b>	<b>6372</b>	<b>5702</b>	<b>2327</b>	<b>2108</b>	<b>1270</b>	<b>1352</b>	<b>19151</b>
SOUTH	Noh Po	1680	3226	2692	1186	1140	610	620	9474
	Ban Don Yang	350	465	499	272	234	102	88	1660
	Tham Him	1654	2340	2382	1037	1017	670	734	8180
	Kho Thay Lu	70	77	85	22	16	36	44	280
		<b>3754</b>	<b>6108</b>	<b>5658</b>	<b>2517</b>	<b>2407</b>	<b>1418</b>	<b>1486</b>	<b>19594</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>18838</b>	<b>28674</b>	<b>26044</b>	<b>10990</b>	<b>10117</b>	<b>5314</b>	<b>5542</b>	<b>86681</b>

### RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH.

FROM	Rice 100kg sacks	Salt Kilos	F-paste 16kg tins	Yellow Bean Kilos	Mosquito Net size Pcs	Blanket Pcs	Plastic Mat Pcs	Cooking Oil 13.75 liter tins	Cooking Fuel Kg
BBC	7,566	19,400	3,249	68,220	-	-	-	45,816	90,720
COERR	350		"	-	-	"	-	-	-

### DISTRIBUTION OF RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED.

CAMP	ITEMS								
	Rice	Salt	Fish paste	Yellow Bean	Mosquito Net	Blanket Pcs	plastic Mat	Cooking Oil	Cooking Fuel
Wang Kha	1,318	3,350	561	11,760	-	-	-	7,908	48,750
Mae La	5,242	12,650	2,119	44,520	-	-	-	29,880	1,500
Maw Ker	1,327	3,350	561	11,760	-	-	-	7,908	40,470
KRC/MSF	20	50	8	180	-	-	-	120	-