



KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

NOVEMBER 1998.

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On the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day of November 1918, the Big Guns in Europe became silent and WWI came to an end. The day was commemorated as Remembrance Day, to remind mankind of the folly of conflict and war. But on the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that Day, we are still witnessing constant, increasing conflicts around the world.

Only a generation after WW 1, the world witnessed yet another much larger conflict, which unleashed awesome destruction, resulting in millions of deaths, disabled and immeasurable misery. One need only to experience it personally to know of the impact of hardship, of suffering from warfare and we refugees world- wide are in the best position to know and understand. Dispossessed, suffering physical pain and mental agony, seeing deaths, abuses, mutilations, broken families, separations- these are some of the things most people will never know .

In these days of great scientific achievements, with man in possession of great destructive power, the outcome of yet another Great conflict can only be imagined. Some knowledgeable people are even saying that the Great conflict, if it ever comes will be the death of this Earth we all call Home.

As of this day, in this world of ours, the number of refugees is increasing rather than decreasing, reflecting the truth about man's love of conflict and destruction. Of recent events, in this border region, man's love for destruction is being witnessed in the burning of 20 villages in Papun Township, resulting in 157 homes being burnt down, 5 civilian deaths and the intentional destruction of 246 plots of paddy, ready for harvesting. Elsewhere, reports say of systematic destruction of cash crops, plantations and orchards which can only mean that the Military Junta is using famine as a weapon to impose its will on the common people. So in this month of Remembrance we refugees, along with peace loving people around the world still have a lot to remember.

Meantime, all those concerned will be watching closely the development of some incidents which, although of diverse origin are very much related- namely, the repatriation process being resumed, of Rohinjas from Bangladesh to Burma, the outcome of the court decision concerning the Military dictator General Augusto Pinochet and the olive -branch initiative involving one billion US Dollars.

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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)	1622	2977	2809	921	868	398	455	8428
	Mae La	4880	10617	9680	3905	3551	1381	1301	30435
	Mae La T.B (Clinic) Prosthesis Workshop								
	Maw Ker	1396	3007	2632	851	811	654	573	8528
		<b>7898</b>	<b>16601</b>	<b>15121</b>	<b>5677</b>	<b>5230</b>	<b>2433</b>	<b>2329</b>	<b>47391</b>
NORTH	Mae Ra Ma Luang	1221	2520	2177	952	760	545	540	7494
	Khun Mae Kong Kha And Sa La	1680	3703	3161	1184	1022	677	601	10348
		<b>2901</b>	<b>6223</b>	<b>5338</b>	<b>2136</b>	<b>1782</b>	<b>1222</b>	<b>1141</b>	<b>17842</b>
S O U T H	Noh Po	1676	3217	2689	1179	1138	616	616	9455
	Ban Don Yang	350	465	499	272	234	102	88	1660
	Tham Him	1672	2335	2078	1037	1017	712	774	8253
	Kho Thay Lu	70	77	85	22	16	36	44	280
		<b>3768</b>	<b>6094</b>	<b>5651</b>	<b>2510</b>	<b>2405</b>	<b>1466</b>	<b>1522</b>	<b>19648</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>14567</b>	<b>28918</b>	<b>26110</b>	<b>10323</b>	<b>9417</b>	<b>5121</b>	<b>4992</b>	<b>84881</b>

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

FROM	Rice 100kg sacks	Salt Kilos	F-paste 16 kg tins	Yellow Bean Kilos	Blanket Pcs.	Net Pcs.	Mat Pcs.	Plastic Sheeting Pcs.	Cooking Oil Litre Bottles	Cooking Fuel Kg.
BBC	14,974	19,800	3,302	69,360	2,720	20	-	-	46,560	271,770
BBC	324	8,000	140	3,000	-	160	120	125	-	-
COERR	350									

### DISTRIBUTION OF RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED.

CAMP	ITEMS									
	Rice	Salt	F- paste	Yellow Bean	Blanket Pcs.	Net Pcs.	Mat Pcs.	Plastic Sheeting Pcs.	Cooking Oil	Cooking Fuel
Wang Kha	1,317	3,350	561	11,760	-	-	-	-	7,908	46,290
Mae La	5,234	13,000	2,168	45,540	HI-20	HI-20	-	-	30,576	178,890
Maw Ker	1,332	3,400	565	11,800	-	-	-	-	7,956	46,590
Noh Poe	-	-	-	-	2,500	-	-	-	-	-
KRC/MSF	20	50	8	180	-	-	-	-	120	-
Dr. Cynthia Clinic.	-	-	-	-	200	-	-	-	-	-