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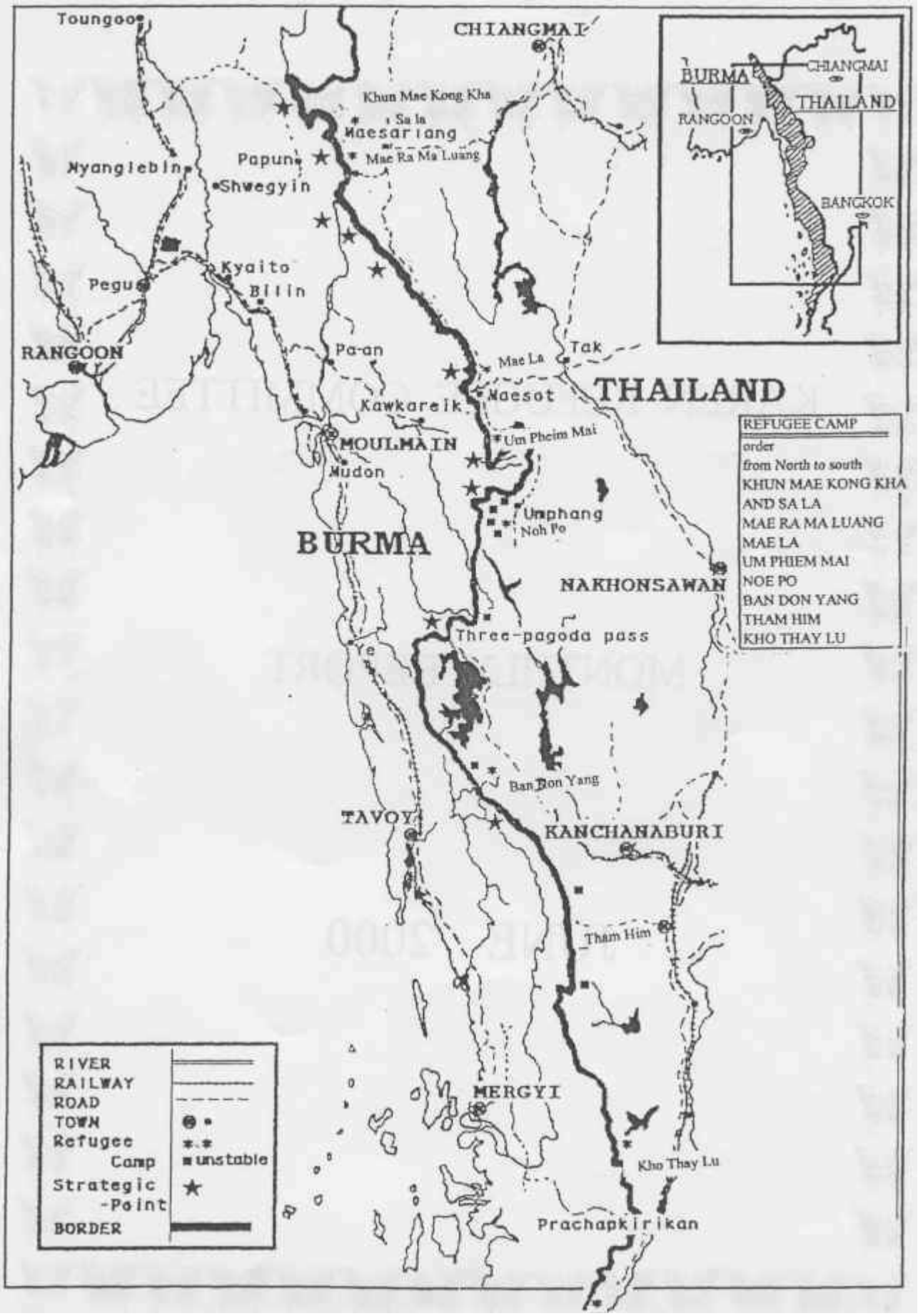
KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 2000


Toungoo
CHIANGMAI
Khun Mae Kong Kha
Sa la
Maesariang
Mae Ra Ma Luang
Papun
Nyanglebin
Shwegyin
Kyaito
Pegu
Bilin
RANGOON
Pa-an
Mae La
Tak
THAILAND
Maesot
Kawkareik
Um Pheim Mai
MOULMAIN
Mudon
Umphang
Noh Po
BURMA
NAKHONSAWAN
Three-pagoda pass
Ye
Ban Don Yang
TAVOY
KANCHANABURI
Tham Him
MERGYI
Kho Thay Lu
Prachapkirikan
BURMA
CHIANGMAI
THAILAND
RANGOON
BANGKOK
REFUGEE CAMP
order
from North to south
KHUN MAE KONG KHA
AND SA LA
MAE RA MA LUANG
MAE LA
UM PHIEM MAI
NOE PO
BAN DON YANG
THAM HIM
KHO THAY LU
RIVER
RAILWAY
ROAD
TOWN
Refugee Camp
unstable
Strategic -Point
BORDER

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It was 56 years ago. On D-Day the 6th of June 1944, allied Forces Launched the Massive Normandy Invasion to recapture Europe from the grip of NAZI terror. It was dubbed the "War to end all Wars." True, the NAZIS were defeated. But the stark reality is that after over half a century later, we are still seeing Wars without end.

Barely 5 years after WWII, in June of 1950, War erupted in divided Korea, where the world witnessed brothers fighting brothers in the name of Ideology. That was followed by conflicts in Vietnam, Kashmir, Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf, the Middle East, In Angola, The Sudan, Congo-Kinshasa, Nigeria, Yugoslavia, Sierra Leone. As of the end of this month, one million displaced People are added to the world's swelling Refugee Population as a result of fighting in Ethiopia /Eritrea.

The "War to end all Wars" was a dismal failure.

Apart from Wars, we are seeing contentious pursuits by people on grounds of Land possession, Ethnicity, Political or Religions Beliefs. We are seeing Ethnic conflicts in Sri -Lanka, Yugoslavia , Fiji and the Solomons. We are seeing religious strifes in Indonesia, India and Nigeria. Landless People in Zimbabwe are attempting (or being provoked?) to acquire Land owned by the "Whites'. These can only Portend disharmony and destabilization. All this in spite of Man having to confront onslaughts of Nature like , Storms, Quakes, Eruptions, floods, landslides and droughts followed by disease and famine. Man it seem , is the most combative of beings.

Now, we are seeing a very different kind of War. This is not War in the proper sense. This is the War of NARCOTIC DRUGS, which many are agreed can be more potent and dangerous. Involved are drugs like Opium, Heroin, Cannabis, Cocaine, Barbiturates and Amphetamines, which ironically had their origin in treatment and alleviation of pain and Disease- Drug abuse is the Name of the Game now. From the Golden Triangle, through the Golden Cresent and to the Central - South Americas, we are seeing this Drugs Menace. From being a regional issue, it has now become a global Problem.

In the Region of South East Asia where Burma is now one of the biggest Source of Narcotics, and which production has become so alarming that neighbouring countries find it necessary to take drastic measures to counter the menace, which is only right and proper.

On the other hand the Military Junta in Burma is harping on its commitment to the eradication of Narcotics. And General Khin Nyunt was saying that Burma would decidedly proceed with its own way of promoting Democracy, for the betterment of the country.

For us people from Burma , having experienced and mangled by the "Burmese Way to Socialism", it is only with alarm and misgiving , that we look forward to experiencing the "SPDC Way to Democracy".

We hope upon hope that Burma will be spared mangling by the "New Way".

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NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE CAMPS JUNE 2000.

	CAMP	No.of families	Over 12 YRS		9-12 YRS		Under 8 YRS		Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	
MAE SOT AREA	Mae La Camp	5,961	10,915	10,481	1,923	1,861	4,278	3,961	34,268
	Um Pheim Mai Camp	3,095	5,194	4,938	1,398	1,282	1,390	1,530	15,732
		9,056	16,109	15,419	3,321	3,143	5,668	5,491	50,000
NORTH	Mae Ra Ma Luang	1,331	2,721	2,365	553	505	974	943	8,061
	Khun Mae Kong Kha And Sa La	2,102	3,977	3,697	887	774	1,533	1,500	12,368
		3,433	6,698	6,062	1,440	1,279	2,507	2,443	20,429
S O U T H	Noh Po	1,702	2,738	2,576	1,234	1,128	506	573	8,755
	Ban Don Yang	659	895	1,024	241	214	491	458	3,323
	Tham Him	1,654	2,339	2,381	1,037	1,017	680	745	8,199
	Kho Thay Lu	66	62	82	8	5	54	63	274
		4,081	6,034	6,063	2,520	2,364	1,731	1,839	20,551
	Grand Total	16,570	28,841	27,544	7,281	6,786	9,906	9,773	90,980

RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH.

FROM	Rice 100kg sacks	Salt Kilos	Fish- paste 16kg tins	Yellow Bean Kilos	Chilies Kilos	Cooking Oil 13.75 liter tins	Cooking Fuel Kg.
B.B.C	7,258	19,600	3,263	49,035	6,126	45,569	337,313
COERR	350						

We shall always be grateful to the Thai People and Government for their sympathy and understanding in allowing us safe refuge.
We are also indebted to the NGOs for their Supports and Services.
BBC- Support in Food and Shelter Material and emergency Relief.
MSF- Support in Medical and Health facilities.
AMI- "
ARC- "
MHD- "
ZOA (ABWAid) - Support in Educational facilities.
ICS. (Asia)-Support in Educational facilities.
TOPS - Support in Educational facilities Support for Nursery, Orphans and Elderly.
COERR- Rice and Educational Support for Orphans, Widows and Elderly.
H.I. Support for Refugee Handicaps with Prosthesis and rehabilitation and also year-end sporting events for Handicaps.
NCA (Norwegian Church Aid) has been providing KRC with administrative & Organizational Support . It has also supported with remuneration for KRC members and workers.
UNHCR- For Registration Protection and Ultimate Safe Repatriation.