



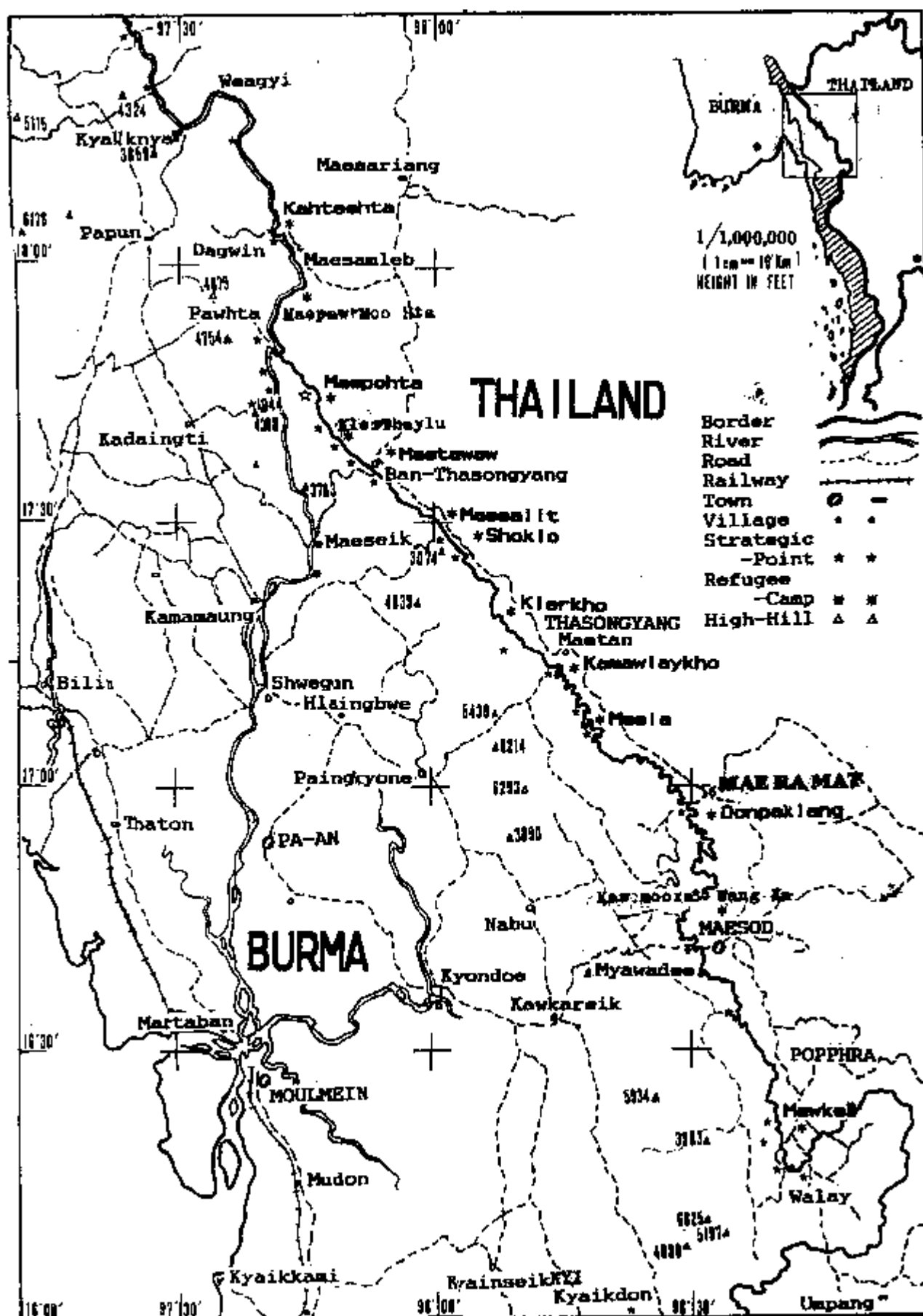
KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY

REPORT

MARCH

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As the month of March ended, the first quarter of the year also came to a close. Time goes by but very little has changed and the general situation along the border as well as inside Burma remains more or less the same. Life for Karen civilians in the rural areas of south-eastern Burma continues to be very difficult, miserable and dangerous at times.

This desperate situation forced many more families from affected areas inside Burma to flee to the border to the refugee camps. Apart from this, many displaced Karens who had been living on their own inside Thailand in various places along the border are also moving in greater and greater number into the refugee camps. Thus, the population figure of displaced people living in the various Karen refugee camps in Thailand has increased considerably again during the month of March.

Schools in the camps are closed now for the summer holidays. The hot season is here and scarcity of water is greatly felt in most of the camps.

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	
WANG KA	755	1190	1537	470	431	319	283	4230
DON PA KIANG	494	927	840	295	285	191	281	2770
MAE LA	1128	1379	1961	889	843	287	279	5638
KANAW LAY KHO	696	1178	1216	407	374	307	306	3788
KLER KHO	566	1097	1065	360	364	249	294	3429
SHO KLO	1547	2550	3197	1149	1065	541	547	9149
MAE SA LIT	631	1104	1285	284	441	175	105	3627
MAE TA WAW	935	1681	1925	845	837	444	442	6174
MAW KER	832	1705	1556	368	305	591	604	5129
KLER THAY LU	126	199	237	80	64	27	27	634
MAE PO HTA	187	157	311	102	112	25	26	733
MAE PAW MOO HTA	395	801	877	304	278	185	207	2652
KA HTEE HTA	411	579	709	330	353	153	201	2325
<u>SOUTHERN CAMPS</u>	8703	14547	16716	5883	5752	3494	3702	50278
PER KLER	587	1120	1081	452	363	169	189	3374
PAND SA NOK	401	687	618	233	258	149	154	2099
NAT IN DAUNG	52	74	79	22	16	27	24	242
<u>TOTAL:</u>	9743	16428	18494	6590	6389	3839	4069	55993

RICE RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH

FROM:-

-BURMESE BORDER CONSORTIUM (BBC)	...	6279	sacks
-CATHOLIC OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF AND REFUGEES (COERR)	...	350	sacks
		6629	sacks

OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH

FROM s -			
-BURMESE BORDER CONSORTIUM (BBC)			
SALT	.	15,100	Kgs.
FISH PASTE		2,332	Tins

DISTRIBUTION OF RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED

CAMP:	RICE	SALT	FISH PASTE
	100 kg.sacks	1 kg. bags	16 kg. tins
WANG KA	650	1510	225
DON PA KIANG	420	990	148
MAE LA	854	2260	302
KAMAW LAY KHO	563	1370	199
KLER KHO	508	1110	180
SHO KLO	1408	3110	492
MAE SA LIT	550	1270	194
MAE TA WAW	900	1810	318
MAW KER	776	1670	274
TOTAL:	6629	15100	2332

The Karen Refugee Committee again 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 to the Karens and other displaced people from Burma who are in trouble and need. The committee is fully aware of the fact that this kindness and understanding is most vital for the survival and well being of the displaced people during their stay in Thailand. This noble gesture of kindness and goodwill is sincerely appreciated and will always be remembered by the Karen refugees and the Karens of Burma.

The committee also expresses its sincere gratitude to the individuals and agencies, who through the years have done so much to meet the basic needs of these displaced people in the various Karen refugee camps.

The refugees left their homes and their country because of war, because of terrible experiences and because of well-founded fears. Many of them have been taking refuge in the camps in Thailand for ten years now. All the refugees dream of peace and the chance to go back home. They want to go back to a home and a country which is free from fear and oppression. The efforts for peace in Burma has provided a glimmer of hope for them but much remains to be done. It is our ardent wish that, through the concerted effort of every peace loving people at home and abroad, a practical solution to the Karen refugee problem and to the Burma problem could be found.

I beg to remain,



Robert Htwe
Chairman
Karen Refugee Committee