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MON NATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

NOVEMBER

1995

THE FIVE POINTS OF THE AIM OF THE MON NATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE

1. Resettlement of the refugees who become homeless due to the oppression of Rangoon military regime.
2. To help for the welfare of the refugees who become jobless due to the oppression of Rangoon military regime.
3. To take care and look after the health of the refugees.
4. To fight against illiteracy for the children in the refugees camps.
5. To struggle for human rights.

The Organization of The Mon National Relief Committee

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Phra Wongsā Pala | - Chairman |
| 2. Nai Shwe Thein | - Vice-Chairman |
| 3. Nai Banya Leir | - Secretary |
| 4. Nai Kasauh Mon | - Joint-Secretary |
| 5. Nai Chit Nyunt | - Member |
| 6. Nai Pho Sein | - Member |
| 7. Phra Nonda Pala | - Member |

MONTHLY REPORT OF MON NATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE (November, 1995)

Plan for Resettlement of Mon refugees

Because of the ceasefire agreement between New Mon State Party (NMSP) and SLORC, the role of Thai policy on Burmese refugees, and the previous treatments of Thai authorities, the Mon refugees has realized that they could not take no longer refuge in Thai soil and would like to settle in areas under control of NMSP where they can grow and have rights to own land for their longterm survival.

Recently, the members from concerned departments and district officials of NMSP, has formed a resettlement committee to facilitate for arrangements of refugee settlement in areas of NMSP. The MNRC also participated in that cooperating committee, to take responsibilities to transport the supplies for those returnees and to provide other necessities which will be contributed from international aids agencies.

At the moment, the MNRC, by cooperating with NMSP's communication department, still construct the road to Bee Ree. And, it will build the road to Payaw. The road to Halockhani is possible to transport supplies which is needed to repair a little bit.

More serious camp to move over the border is only Payaw, which is absolutely situated in Thai soil and it needs to move earlier than other camps. For the refugees of Halockhani, as the camp site is on the border, mostly in Burma, and they can move any time to any resettlement areas and if not, they can continuously stay in Halockhani.

As the NMSP and Thai authorities agreed in recently, the illegal immigrants who are mostly in Kanchanaburi Province can return and join in the resettlement areas voluntarily. For that reason, the authorities of Moulmein District has registered nearly 1000 families of immigrants, who would like to settle in resettlement areas. In 1990, when the Burmese troops occupied NMSP's headquarters areas in Three Pagoda Pass, most of those immigrants were residing close to NMSP headquarters and other military camps. The NMSP authorities also agreed to transfer their previous owned land to them again and mostly would like to settle in their former places.

In the most resettlement areas, the participants who will have to reside those areas are as below;

- (1) Refugees living in the camps along the border.
- (2) Immigrants in mostly Kanchanaburi Province
- (3) The Internally displaced persons not living in camps.

The most resettlement areas are under the control of NMSP and hopefully, those returnees are safe and enough protection must be provided by Mon troops, by preventing conscription of forced labours or forced porters, confiscation of villagers' properties and tax extortion, etc.,. So, those returnees can select and resettle voluntarily in any resettlement areas under control of NMSP. Even those areas are not their native places, as they have ever stayed for longer time and enough farming lands, they could reside similarly to their native places and able to provide for their survivals.

Assistances for Resettlement Areas

According to the recent meeting of Mon Resettlement Committee, to facilitate the resettlement of those returnees, it divided four areas and the villages to be created up in each areas are mentioned as below:

1. Moulmein District Area

- a. Halockhani
- b. Baleh Donephai
- c. Palaing Japan
- d. Che Deit

2. Tavoy District Area

- a. Kwan Tamoit
- b. Meip Zeip
- c. Kungbabae
- d. Jao Done

3. Ye River Area

- a. Jo Haprao
- b. Baleh Dee Thut
- c. Naung Perng
- d. Pong Kamar

4. Mergui District Area

- a. Chaeng Chi
- b. Krung Hani
- c. Nam Yen

In this resettlement process, the resettlement committee need to create the suitable village areas, in which they have to adopt for the places of possible school and hospital or clinic, and to share possible farmlands for longterm community reconstruction of those returnees. And, they have also to build some bridge in most areas as every site has main streams and getting flood in rainy season. For agriculture, the returnees also need seeds of vegetables, rice and other longterm trees such as cashew nut, rubber, etc.,.

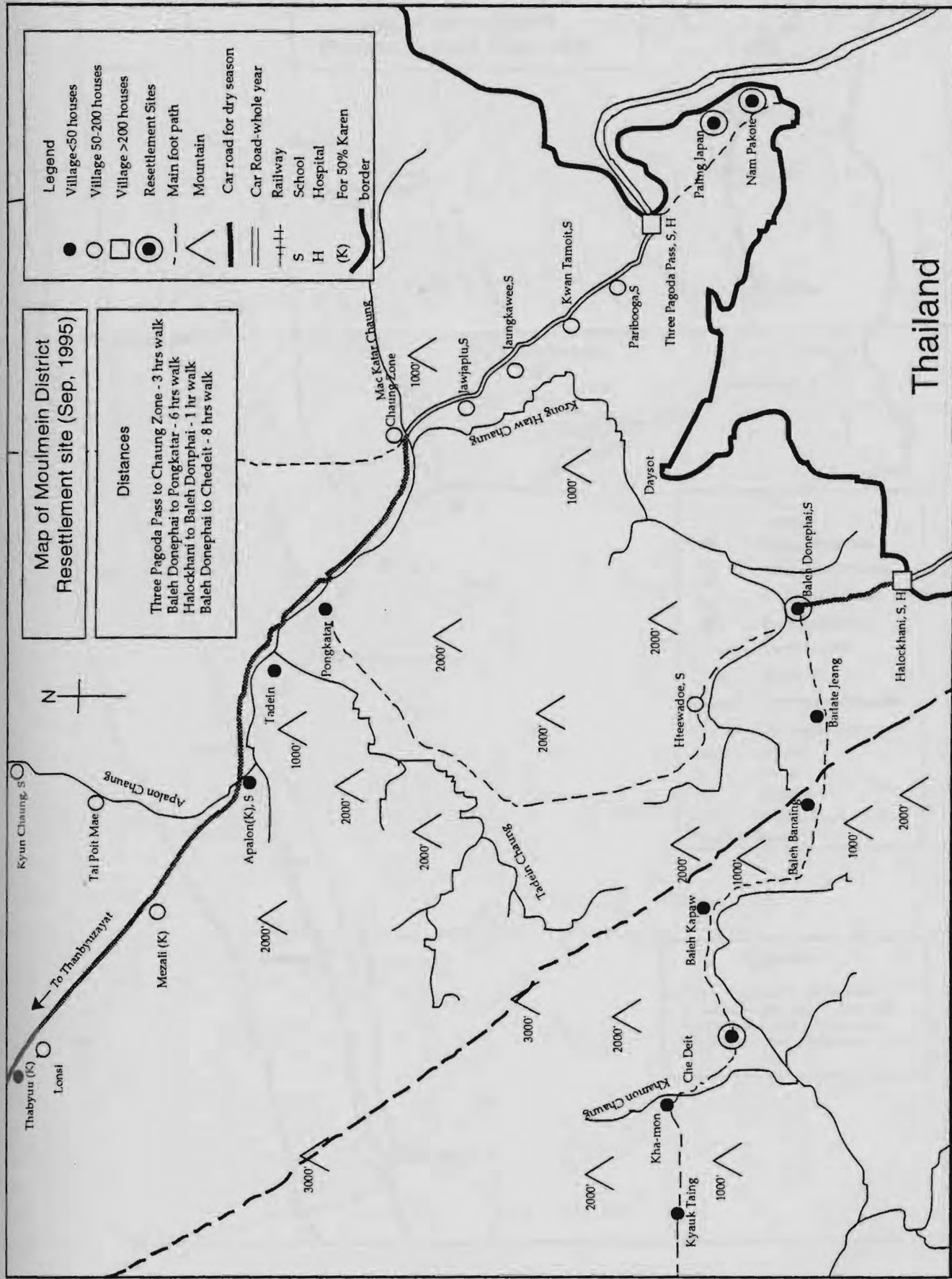
In fact, the MNRC would like to ask international community to help those long suffering Mon people with assistance of monitoring, foods, necessities for community reconstruction while the Mon people, for itself, could not help each other in their weak community.

**THE REFUGEE POPULATION OF THE FOUR CAMP ARE AS FOLLOW
(November,1995)**

| No | Camp | Families | Adult | | Children | | Total |
|----|------------|----------|-------|------|----------|------|-------|
| | | | M | F | M | F | |
| 1 | Bee Ree | 271 | 312 | 350 | 473 | 510 | 1645 |
| 2 | Payaw | 697 | 903 | 1115 | 997 | 1155 | 4170 |
| 3 | Prachuab | 317 | 381 | 374 | 443 | 527 | 1725 |
| 4 | Halockhani | 852 | 968 | 1037 | 1325 | 1889 | 5219 |
| | Total | 2137 | 2564 | 2876 | 3238 | 4081 | 12759 |

**THE MATERIALS RECEIVED BY THE MON NATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE
(November, 1995)**

| No | Organization | Rice (sack) | Fish Paste (kg) | Salt (kg) | Chilly (kg) | Remark |
|----|--------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|--------|
| 1 | COERR | 100 | 550 | - | - | |
| 2 | Consortium | 1059 | - | 1500 | - | |
| | Total | 1159 | 550 | 1500 | - | |



Map of Moulmein District
Resettlement site (Sep, 1995)

Distances

Three Pagoda Pass to Chaung Zone - 3 hrs walk
Baleh Donephai to Pongkatar - 6 hrs walk
Halokhani to Baleh Donephai - 1 hr walk
Baleh Donephai to Chedait - 8 hrs walk

- Legend**
- Village <50 houses
 - Village 50-200 houses
 - Village >200 houses
 - Resettlement Sites
 - Main foot path
 - Mountain
 - Car road for dry season
 - Car Road-whole year
 - Railway
 - School
 - Hospital
 - For 50% Karen
 - border

Thailand

Map of Tavoy District Resettlement site (Nov, 1995)

