



KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE, 2005

Karen Refugee Committee
Monthly Report
June, 2005 – Newsletter

This month of June, it will be good to remember that the UNITED NATIONS came into being on the 25th of June, 1945 when the United Nations Charter was signed by the original (50) member Nations. The end of WW-II was about to come and member Nations hope to work together to see that there will be no more Wars. Today with more Nations joining in and with more efforts, the United Nations seems to be facing with more problems. Some Nations seem to be joining the Member of Nations only for their own sake rather than helping out.

Born this month also, is the “Lady Democracy” of Burma, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who was born on the 19th of June 1945 and of whose Birthday many have cause to remember and celebrate. But then, on her 60th, Birthday, the “Lady” will be celebrating alone without relatives or loved ones. For she is still in custody, isolated from the outside world, dreaded, hated and mistreated hated by the most brutal and repressive regime in the world. To all indications, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will be in for a long and nightmarish sleep for doing things that can only be called right and proper.

Of Repression, we remember the June 21st Student Protest and Demonstration of 1988 at Mye-Ni-Gone, Rangoon which was severely clamped down, and which resulted in many deaths and injured. That finally led to the 4-Eights Students Movement of 8.8.88, which was brutally crushed by the SLORC Military Regime.

Then, we remember of one similar brutal crack-down, this one on June 3.4.1989 in Beijing, China. The student led Pro-Democracy Demonstrations was severely crushed by the State Authorities, where hundreds were killed, tens of thousands injured with many arrested and executed. That was the Tian An Men Square Massacre.

Around the world this June, many will remember D-Day, the 6th of June 1944. On that Day; allied forced, under the over-all command of U.S General Eisenhower, landed in Normandy, France. It was a combined attempt by the Allies, to rid Europe of the Evil of Hitler and Nazi Germany. By the end of June, 1944, the Allied Forces number over 850,000 men supported by 150,000 war vehicles fighting the German Forces in France. In all sense of the word, it was “Intervention” by the United states for the Cause of Democracy. Today, many people would rather not mention nor like Intervention. But, then without “Intervention” by the United States, there is no doubt that the Map of Europe and that of Asia will not be the same as that of what we are seeing today. Even Some Peoples will have lost their Homelands and Their Identities.

This month one little report that seems not to have stirred much interest was the report that in Brazil, a country that is fighting no war has hundreds of thousands of gun related deaths in one year. Similar features can be seen in many countries, too, which is manifestation that even Civilians are becoming more and more trigger-happy these days. If killings by knives and other means, were to be included it would be an alarming indication that the killing instinct of Man has never been contained by any Civilization or Modernization – anywhere. For that matter, Soldier-Boys can never be blamed for what they are doing, as they are only shooting under Orders.

And every Solder-Boy owes it to himself, to shoot out, just to Protect Dear life.

K.R.C - Camps- Activities – Report.

June – 2005

◆ Registration of Camps Refugee Population – on going in UM PHIEM CAMP. Registration had been completed in Tham Hin, Ban Don Yang, Mae Ra Ma Luang and Mae La Oo Camps. Registration expected to be conducted in Mae La Camp near the end of July 2005 – Registration Refugees: Mae La Oo 13614 – PAB Cases 3402

Mae Ra Ma Luang 9199 – PAB Cases 3136

Ban Don Yang 3341

Tham Hin 8168

◆ There is dissent by Medical Health Workers in Mae Ra Ma Luang Camp, which the Thai Authorities, UNHCR and the Camp's Committee are trying to address. Some Action Group is involved which makes it difficult for resolving in the first instance. There is also some problem with distribution of rice in Mae La Oo, which all concerned are now trying to address.

◆ There are problems in Noh Poe and Um Phiem Camps with distribution of Building material (Bamboo) and which TBBC, KRC and Camps Committees are trying to address.

◆ Mae La Camp – 9.6.05 - Visited by a fact finding Mission from Australia led by Ms. Robyn Bickett of the Refugee, Humanitarian and International Division. They met with the Camp's Committee Mae La. Wide ranging discussions were made together with Questions and Answers Sections. Discussions touched on the Present Conditions of the Refugees as well as the future – including Resettlement features.

◆ 1.6.05 – 10.6.05 – KRC and KED met to discuss:

1. Laying down and ratification of the Education Policy.
2. To lay down Works Plans and Implementation.
3. Camps Education Coordinators to take more time and meet and discuss with the Educational staff-workers on a regular basis.

◆ E.I.P (English Immersion Program) school established in Um Phiem with the object of teaching student to improve their learning in English –Reading, writing, speaking. This will help with their performance in their relationship with Foreign, Visitors, and Donors etc. Acceptance will be 20 students per year.

◆ 13.6.05 – 14.6.05 – K.R.C and Camp's Committees from (7) Refugee Camps meet-in Mae La. (37) Participated in the meeting. Annual Report Presentations for year 2004 were made from KRC as well as camps Committees. Discussions were made based on the Presentations. KRC discussed the Negative Impacts in Camps from The Marketing

Practices and the increasing social problems in Camps – due to external exposures, and Contagion – and influences like Alcohol and Gambling/Lotteries. One surprising Question that came out at the meeting “Is there any more need for K.R.C to Exist?”

♦ 15.6.05 – 16.6.05 – KRC, Camps Committees, and (9) Karen Refugee Work Groups Meet. (55) Representatives took part. It was the second time that all Karen Refugee Work Groups meet. Discussed were matters related to Support Food – Material, Facilities, Camps Administration Rules and Regulation (Keeping the Law and Order), Medical/ health, Education, Religion and Social Relationships. Ms. Sally Thompson from CCSDPT also attended to give encouragement and to give information of what CCSDPT is working on, to improve the Conditions of the Refugees.

♦ 17.6.2005 – KRC, Camps Committees, Karen Work-Groups, UNHCR, KRC and NGOs, meet at Mae La. Altogether (77) Representatives participated. There was open, wide ranging discussions, presentations by Individual Groups, together with touching on all aspects of Refugee living, the present, as well as for the future.

♦ 20.6.2005 – World Refugee Day – and 26.6.2005 – Anti Drugs Day - Celebrated in all Karen Refugee Camps.

UNHCR helps with financing for World Refugee Day activities in all Camps.

♦ 21.6.2005 – At Mae La Camp – “Refugee at Risk” Training Workshop facilitated by UNHCR – 50 Representatives from Noh Poe, Um Phiem and Mae La Camps attended.

Also, there was a 4 day HIV/AIDS Workshop Training in Mae La Zone ‘C’.

♦ 22.6.2005 – 26.6.2005 – KRC and Camps Management Program Team Visited Mae La Oo and Mae Ra Ma Luang Camps. Assessment and monitoring of the works processes of the Camp Management Program were made. Also there were talks aimed at improvement of the Camp’s Administration, as well as giving advice with regard to problems, that the Camps are facing.

♦ 29.6.05 – The Thai Education Authorities plan to establish one Educational Activity in Camps. That would be related to setting up the Kaw Sor Naw system of Elderly Education in Refugee Camps. The Education class will start on 29.6.05. there will be 3 classes in one week. To start with Camps Committees and Works Responsible people, class time will be 9 AM to 12 AM. The process is on going in Mae La Camp. It will be set up in Um Phiem and Noh Poe Camps. The purpose being to promote Co-operative works performances by all those in Responsible Positions.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE CAMPS JUNE, 2005.

MAE SOT AREA	CAMP	No. of families	Over - 12 Yrs		6 - 12 Yrs		Under 5 Yrs		Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	
	Mae La	5200	11322	11013	3526	3332	1996	1850	33039
	Um Pheim Mai	3335	6344	5998	2188	2101	1293	1164	19088
	Total	8535	17666	17011	5714	5433	3289	3014	52127
NORTH	Mae Ra Moe	2157	4647	4254	1390	1249	1012	990	13542
	Mae La Oo	2644	5367	4706	1688	1577	989	834	15161
	Total	4801	10014	8960	3078	2826	2001	1824	28703
SOUTH	Noh Poe	2446	4110	4129	1298	1195	901	926	12559
	Ban Dong Yang	849	1326	1493	479	438	220	199	4155
	Htam Him	1576	2430	2654	1052	1049	574	617	8376
	Total	4871	7866	8276	2829	2682	1695	1742	25090
	Grand Total	18207	35546	34247	11621	10941	6985	6580	105,920

RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH.

FROM	CAMP	Rice 60 kg Sack	Salt Kilos	F-paste 15 -Kg Tins	Yellow Bean 60 Kilo/sack	Chilies Kilos	Cooking Oil 200 ltr	Charcoal 20 Kg Sacks	ASIA MIX 25kg Sack	Fire-wood m3
B.B.C	Umphiem Mai	5563	6112	926	290	2316	87	7320	1037	
	Mae La	13565	14833	2257	712	5633	212	17776	2502	
	Noe Poe	3895	4290	650	203	1625	61	729	5135	

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. BBC is also supporting with warm clothing for all the camps.

MSF- Support in Medical and Health facilities.

AMI- " " " " " "

ARC- " " " " " "

MHD- " " " " " "

ZOA (ABWaid) - Support in Educational facilities Teachers' Training.

Consortium - Support in Educational facilities, Teachers' Training and Education for Deaf/Mute/Blinds.

TOPS- Support in Educational facilities.

ICS- Asia- Support in Educational facilities and school buildings.

COERR- Rice and Educational support. EVI- to be involved with Extremely Vulnerable people.

H.I- Support for Refugee Handicaps with Prosthesis and rehabilitation and also year-end sporting events for Handicaps.

NCA- (Norway Church Aid) has been providing KRC with administrative & organizational Support.

It has also supported with remuneration for KRC members and workers.

UNHCR- For Registration Process Protection and Ultimate Safe Repatriation.

SMRU- Support with Malaria Control, Prevention and Treatment.

SVA- to support with Libraries in the camps.

PPAT- Parenthood Planning Association Thailand - Supporting with Family Planning and Preventive/ Education in Refugee Camps.

Address: P.O Box- 5, Mae Sot, Tak-63110, Thailand.

E- mail win3@loxinfo.co.th

Ø (055)Intl: +66 55 532 947.

Fax:(055)Intl +66 55 546 869.