



**ကမ္ဘာတိုဟံးပြာ်ဒဲးဒိုက်  
ကောံ  
မရဲင်မောအိးပြဲးညးချင်မန်**

**MON RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**MONTHLY REPORT**

**February 2008**

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# **Aim and Objectives of Mon Relief and Development Committee**

## **Aim:**

Provide temporary shelters, basic needs and development assistance to refugees and the displaced persons who homeless and helpless situation due to the oppression of Rangoon military regimes in Mon territory along Thailand-Burma border.

## **Objectives:**

1. To help the welfares of the refugees in border areas and IDPs who are displaced inside the country, with foods, shelter and possible protection.
2. To coordinate with local Mon people in developing the grassroots community in the fields of health, education, literacy, agriculture and other rural development projects.
3. To empower the local community for the participation of decision making processes for their own lives and communities.
4. To struggle for the human rights.

# **The Organization of Mon Relief and Development Committee**

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>1. Nai Wongsala Pala</b> | <b>- Chairman</b>          |
| <b>2. Nai Kasau Mon</b>     | <b>- Vice Chairman</b>     |
| <b>3. Nai Kem Kom Kao</b>   | <b>- General Secretary</b> |
| <b>4. Mi Seik Jyanda</b>    | <b>- Administrator</b>     |
| <b>5. Mi Wing Ah Bloa</b>   | <b>- Member</b>            |
| <b>6. Nai Bayar Nwe</b>     | <b>- Member</b>            |
| <b>7. Nai Ong Htaw Mon</b>  | <b>- Member</b>            |

# **Monthly Report of Mon Relief and Development Committee**

**(February 2008)**

## **Overview on Population Displacement in Yebyu Township**

Among various areas in Tenasserim Division, the ethnic people especially Mon, Karen and Tavoyan local inhabitants in Yebyu has continuously suffered from gross human rights violations committed by troops of Burmese Army. Human rights abuses have forced the local people to flee from the area. The displaced villagers have various problems during the displacement situation especially almost families do not have sufficient foods.

After deployment of many troops in Yebyu Township in order to protect infrastructure and gas pipelines – Yadana; and Kanbaw-Myaingkalay – those troops have forced the villagers in various self-reliance programs. Some troops from LIB No. 282 and LIB No. 410 involved in palm plantation and forced the local villagers from Kalein-aung and Yapu village tracts to contribute their unpaid labour. LIB No. 273 and LIB No. 406 involved in brick-making and rice-farming activities and forced the local villagers from Pauk-pin-gwin and Kwe-tho-nyima village tracts to contribute their unpaid labour including collecting fire woods for brick burning.

According to a man from Kyauk-ka-din village, he suffered from sending fire woods to battalion base in his village and sometimes he has to follow with soldiers as porters to guide them and to carry some food supplies. At the end, he could not tolerate longer and fled to a village under the control of New Mon State Party (NMSP).

The Mon splinter groups led by two commanders have been active in both Ye (southern part) and Yebyu Townships. Sometimes, the KNLA troops have been active in Yebyu Township. Both Mon and Karen armed groups are active to gather supports from the civilians and then fought back against the troops of Burmese Army. Whenever the soldiers of ethnic Mon and Karen groups entered into villages or fighting happened with the troops of Burmese Army, the villagers were suffered from abuses. They were arrested and beaten during the interrogation. Similarly when the troops of Burmese Army entered the villagers, the village heads not only have to provide foods but they also have to provide porters for military activities.

Then the Burmese Army troops those have launched offensives in the area also imposed a serious movement restriction against the local villagers and farmers. All farmers who want to work outside of villages in their farms or orchard plantations or rubber plantation have to report to military commanders. They are not allowed for some weeks. Later the commanders allowed them to work in their farms or plantations but all of them need to leave only in the morning and return in the evening time. Villagers who have farms or plantations far from the villagers could not travel back and forth and could not manage to work.

Another cause that forcing the villagers to flee from the villages was recruitment of militiamen in village and let them guard their own villages. The local military battalions, IB No. 299, LIB No.273, LIB No. 406 and LIB No. 282 have forced many villagers to attend basic military training, force them to form militia force, use them to guard their own villages and were under command of those battalions to fight back the rebels if they approach close to villages.

The displaced villagers fled to various routes. Some of them fled into big villages near Ye while some fled to northern part of Ye Township. But many fled to this Hlae-seik area in order to get protection by NMSP. But most mountainous area, where the displaced persons are sheltering can not provide them with proper fertile lands to grow and produce foods for all families in the area. The displaced villagers can produce only small amount of rice and other crop trees. These food supplies can not support for food sufficiency for the whole year. This is the first reason why the displaced villagers face food-shortage problems.

Because of the activities by the troops of Burmese Army into the area to fight back or uproot the activities of Mon splinter group and troops of KNLA. When the displaced villagers heard about the activities of the Burmese Army, most of them could not get out from their villages to engage in day-labour works and farming. The movement restriction against the displaced villagers often occurred and this is the second reason why the displaced villagers face food-shortage problems as the military operations have been often intensive.

In eastern part of Yebyu Township area is an isolated and there is only a few trader who come to deal in business works. The villagers have totally relied on the local people or owners of rubber and orchard plantations in the area. When the displaced villagers have works from the local people, they can get food supplies from them. But most works in rubber and orchard plantations are seasonal works, and so that the local people can not support food to them for the whole year. This is the third reason why the displaced villagers face food-shortage problems as they have to rely on seasonal works provided by the local farmers.

In the rainy season, the area has a very bad communication to outside areas of Tavoy Resettlement Site and local villages along Ye-Tavoy motor road. Many of them could not travel in rainy season to purchase or borrow food supplies. The rainy season cut all communication because of flood and this is the last reason for the displaced villagers to face food-shortage problems.

Yebyu Township has larger area of plain lands and these lands are used by Burmese Army troops to grow various types of orchard trees and palm plants. Some SPDC closed business companies are also involving in mega plan for palm and rubber plantations.

Since there are various investment in the area including Yatana gas pipeline, the Burmese Army has deployed more troops since 1993. Therefore, The fighting have regularly occurred in 2007. In January 2007, after an ambush fighting by the splinter group against the Burmese Army in Yebyu Township, the Mon villagers in the area were accused as rebel-supporters. Many of them fled from their homes. Similarly Karen villagers from some Karen villages in Yebyu Township were also restricted their movement and were also forced to inform about the activities of KNU/KNLA to the Burmese local commanders. Karen villagers from Law-thaing and Mon villagers from Ale-skan villages also abandoned their villages and fled into NMSP areas.

The armed fighting between the troops of Burmese Army and the Mon splinter groups has still happened in coastal areas of Yebyu Township and the whole area in Ye Township. The displaced persons fled from their homes to escape from the abuses committed by both Burmese Army and Mon splinter group. In villages, the troops of Mon splinter group always requested tax and foods from the villagers and sometimes, they also kidnapped the local villagers. The troops of Burmese Army always accused the villagers as supporters to the splinter group and mis-treated them as enemy. At the end, they have escaped from their homes in order to free from persecution and abuses.

# **THE REFUGEE POPULATION OF THE THREE RESETTLEMENT SITE**

**(February,2008)**

No	Camp	Numpr of Family	Over 5 years		Under 5 years		Total
			M	F	M	F	
1	Halockhai	729	1704	1722	146	158	3730
2	Che-daik	134	235	246	41	38	560
3	Bee Ree	658	1533	1503	220	196	3452
4	Tavoy	451	1055	997	148	122	2272
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1972</b>	<b>4527</b>	<b>4468</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>10014</b>

## **THE MATERIALS RECEIVED**

**BY THE MON RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**(February,2008)**

No	Organization	Rice	Fish Paste (kg.)	Salt (kg.)	Bean (kg.)	Remark
1	TBBC	-	-	-	-	
2	TBBC (for Halockhani)					
<b>TOTAL</b>		-	-	-	-	

# Map of Three Pagoda Pass and Halockhani Resettlement Site (Feb,2008)







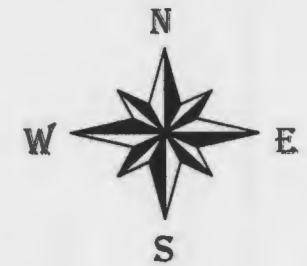
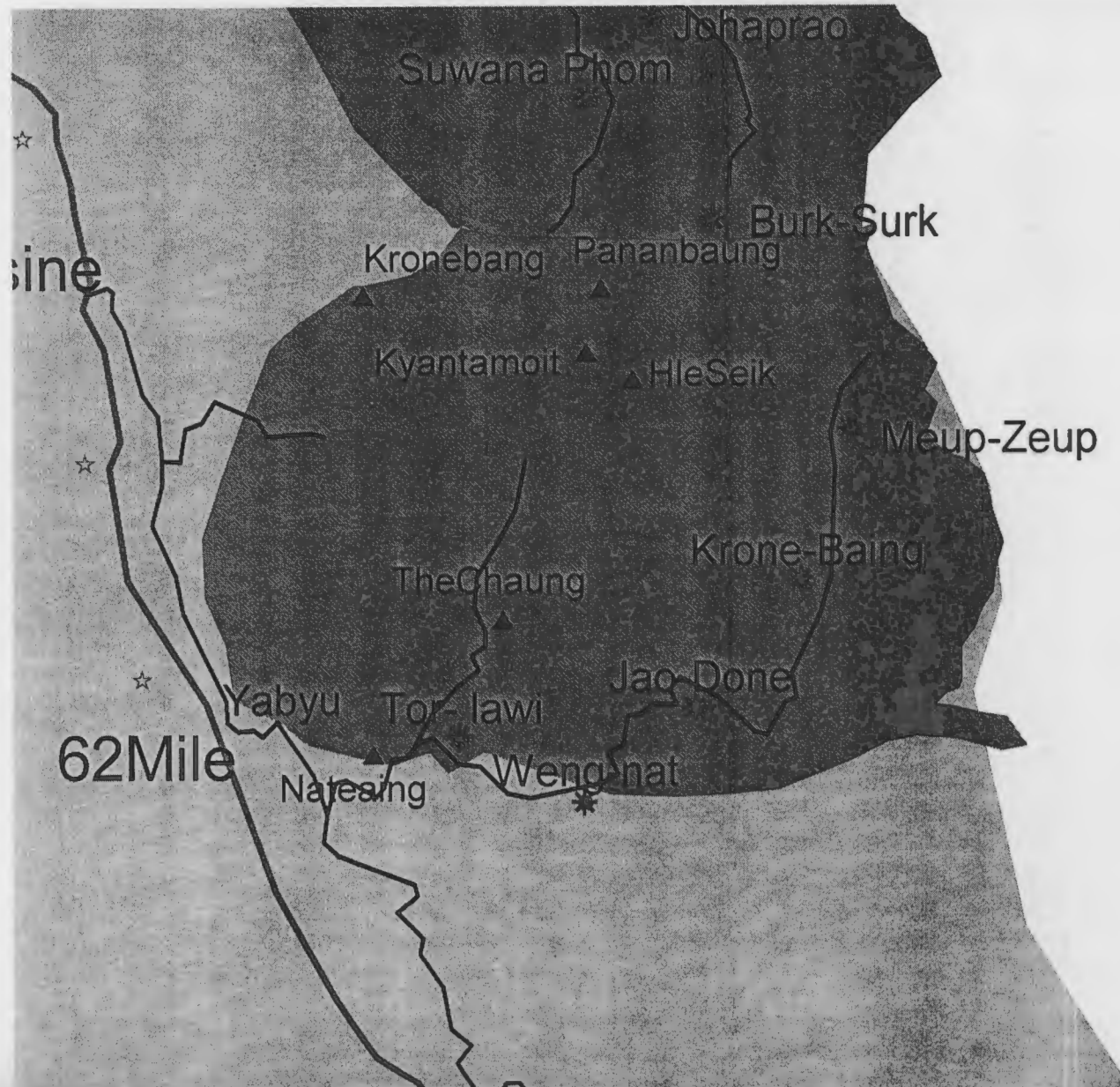
- \* Resettlement site,shp.shp
- ▲ Idps villages.shp
- ~ Rivers.shp
- Villages.shp
- ~ Roads\_bbc.shp
- Cities\_bbc.shp
- ~ Railroads.shp
- ☆ Spdc06.shp
- Ceasefire06.shp
- Ks area.shp
- Country.shp

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5

10 Miles

# Map of Tavoy District and Tavoy Resettlement Site (Feb, 2008)



- \* Resettlement site,shp.shp
- ▲ Idps villages.shp
- ~ Rivers.shp
- Villages.shp
- ~ Roads\_bbc.shp
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- ☆ Spdc06.shp
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- Country.shp