

Refugee Relief in Indonesia Hastened to Avoid Monsoons

By Paul Zach
Special to The Washington Post

LETUNG, Ambon Islands, Indonesia—Mounting concern that the coming winter monsoon may hamper delivery of food and medical supplies to the "boat people" stranded in these remote South China Sea islands has prompted a step-up in processing efforts by officials of the U. S. Refugee Program and the Joint Volunteer Agency here.

Living on islands that are accessible only by boat, helicopter or seaplane in good weather, most of the 51,491 registered refugees attempting to survive in this spectacularly beautiful, but inhospitable, island group exist on daily rations that allow each a small tin containing about 125 grams of rice, a little soy sauce and occasionally some cabbage.

U.S. Refugee Program coordinator for the region, James Schill, said the five months of monsoons that begin in October could cut into those meager rations even more.

"Obviously, we want to do the best we can to move refugees now residing in the islands prior to the onset of monsoons," he said.

Schill said no more than 20 or 30 refugees have been moved out of the Anambas since the first boatload put in March 20 at a small island called Perhala, a five minute rowboat ride from the seat of the local government here in Letung.

That slow pace led Maj. Djoko Soewindi, an Indonesian Army official, to refuse relief matters in these islands, to predict that it would be three to five years before the last refugees leave the Anambas islands.

Schill said the United States is making a major effort to avoid such a long stay. He said his office has pre-screened 3,000 people in the Anambas. "We would probably move them 2,000 strong over a period of weeks down close to Singapore," he said, "where they transit through Singapore to the international airport in Singapore and then on to the United States. It's not easy though."

Despite pledges made at the Geneva conference on refugees last month, the only other government represented in the Anambas during my visit were the French.

Delegate Guy H. Horlin of the French-Vietnam Aid Committee spent four days in the refugee camps.

He refused to disclose how many refugees France will resettle from the Anambas, but his file did not appear very large. He said he believes it will be two years before most have left the island.

U.S. officials are optimistic that all the boat people in the Anambas at least will be moved within a year to Bintan Island, just south of Singapore, where about 10,000 refugees now live in four camps.

How well the majority of those in the Anambas can survive even a year is in question.

Partly for safety reasons, the Indonesian Navy last week began relocating refugees last week to the two largest camps called Kuku and Air Raya on the island of Jura.

The refugees are scattered in nine locations in the Anambas Islands, about 170 nautical miles from Singapore. There are also 10 islands in the Tuna Islands, farther to the north and more remote.

The chief of all Indonesian refugee operations, Adim. Wilsono visited the camps last week to oversee the start of the move.

The admiral said Indonesia plans to transfer all people from existing camps in the Anambas and Natunas to Air Raya and Kuku before the monsoons begin in October. That would swell the size of those two settlements to more than 15,000 each.

The camps are on flat, sand beaches, and small mountains jut up sharply behind each camp, limiting the living space available. As many as 40 refugees crowd into huts no larger than the size of a standard hotel room.

The camps are located on the southern side of the island, however, and the mountains will provide some shelter from the monsoon rains, which rage in from the north.

"It will also be easier to look after them in two places instead of 10," Wilsono said.

Another Indonesian military official expressed concern that friction may be growing between the refugees and the nearly 12,000 local Indonesian residents in Letung. Some ethnic Chinese refugees have made major inroads into control of the local economy, setting up shops and engaging in banking activities for fellow refugees at interest rates sometimes as high as 20 percent.

As part of the relocation effort, the refugees have been ordered by the military to wear colored ribbons pinned to their shirtsleeves identifying the camp each person resides in and keeping the refugees distinct from Indonesians.

Pung Kim Hao, 27, a physics student from Perhala camp, said an early taste of monsoon weather claimed its first victim three weeks ago when a six-year old girl was killed when a gale uprooted a coconut tree. Three other camp members also were injured.

Of greater concern, however, is the possibility that supplies of food and medicine may be cut off for days or weeks at a time if bad weather makes intercamp travel impossible and prevents shipments from Bintan Island, off the coast of Sumatra and about as far from the Anambas as Singapore.

Supplies arrive irregularly, usually aboard hospital ships such as the French Ile de Lumiere.

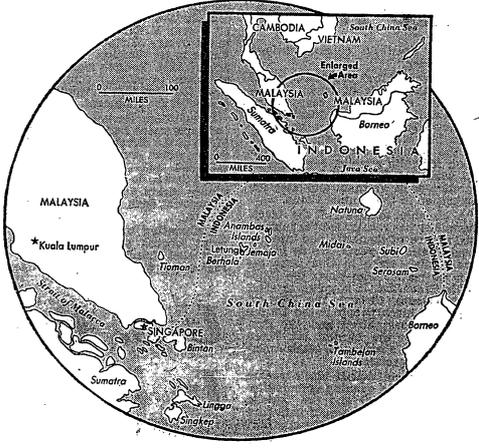
Lee Get-Shing, an interpreter at the Air Raya camp, said that in addition to the small rice portions, there are only enough eggs to provide one a month for each person, and fish is so expensive that most refugees only buy some once every 10 days. Boat people are prohibited by the government from fishing in Indonesian waters.

The lack of protein has resulted in malnutrition among many of the young children in camp. On Bieh Lih head nurse at Air Raya's only clinic, said the majority of the 300 people treated each day are children who do not get proper care.

The French lead the effort to minister to the sick in the Anambas. In addition to the hospital ship with 20 volunteer doctors, the French "Medicine Without Boundaries" has a team of four, including a surgeon and an anesthetist, working and living in the Kuku camp. The team has a blood X-ray machine and surgical equipment.



United Press International
Vietnamese refugees unload belongings from their boats off an island in Indonesia's Anambas chain, after they were refused permission to land in Malaysia.



By Dave Cook—The Washington Post
Thousands of Indochinese refugees have temporary shelter in Anambas Islands.

U.S. efforts in the Anambas primarily center on speeding up the processing of refugees.

Schill said the break-through in getting into the Anambas camps occurred

two weeks ago, when three members of the congressional delegation led by Rep. Benjamin Rosenthal (N.Y.) visiting this area toured the bleak, Terempa refugee camp.

Iran Orders Factions to Turn in Arms

By Chris de Kretser
Special to The Washington Post

TEHRAN, Aug. 20—Iran's revolutionary authorities banned unauthorized possession of weapons today and closed 25 publications in tough new measures against opposition to the Islamic government.

The troubled Kurdish region was reported tense but calm, as security forces stood poised to stamp out any new rebellion following Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's mass mobilization order Sunday.

In Tehran and other parts of the country, pro-Khomeini demonstrators demanded the execution of the two main Kurdish leaders after Khomeini had condemned them as "corrupt" and called on the Kurds themselves to arrest them.

Announcing the weapons ban, the revolutionary public prosecutor of Tehran, Ayatollah Ahmad Azari Qomi declared that the arms must be delivered to the nearest military arsenal. He said the ban was imposed following repeated requests from the people of Iran and that henceforth only armed forces personnel and Khomeini's Revolutionary Guards would be permitted to possess weapons.

"The ban is particularly aimed at those political parties and groups whose policies go against the wishes of the nation," Qom said.

He warned that if the weapons were not handed back, offenders would be tried by the revolutionary courts and severely punished.

The arms ban was coupled with an announcement that all parties occupying public buildings must vacate them.

The order was again directed at political opposition groups that set up their headquarters after the February revolution but were disbanded by the government of the deposed shah.

Revolutionary Guards have already occupied most of these buildings and have been trying to take over the headquarters of the Islamic Revolutionary guerrilla organization since last week, according to sources.

In another announcement, Ayatollah Qomi said 22 newspapers and 25 magazines were closed because they have gone against the path of Islam and the nation.

Among them were a new morning daily called Tehran and the party organs of the Marxist Fedayee guerrilla

organization, the pro-Moscow Tudeh Party, the Trotskyite Socialist Workers Party and the liberal National Democratic Front.

Bamdad, the only morning newspaper still attempting to follow an independent line, received a warning "for trying to sow sedition with provocations and distortions."

Meanwhile, pro-Khomeini attackers ransacked the home of National Democratic Front leader Hedayatollah Matin-Daftari, who is being sought by Revolutionary Guards.

In Kurdistan there were reports of minor incidents but no major violence as government forces moved to take control of the region.

The heavily armed Kurds seemed to be retreating to mountain hideouts or to the town of Mahabad, the stronghold of the newly outlawed Kurdistan Democratic Party.

Ayatollah Khomeini switched his tactics today toward Iran's Kurds, appealing "to my dear Kurdish friends" to arrest the leaders of the "stagnant" party.

Khomeini's call was taken up in Tehran and the western city of Ker-

manshah where thousands of people poured into the streets to attend funeral processions for Revolutionary Guards killed in fighting with the Kurds in the town of Paveh last week.

"Hosseini and Qassemu must be executed," the demonstrators chanted, referring to the spiritual leader of the Kurds, Sheikh Ezzedin Hosseini, and the secretary general of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, Abdurahman Qassem.

The mobilization of the armed forces ordered by Khomeini Sunday was proceeding today as thousands of troops, police and revolutionary guards arrived in the region near the Kurdistan provincial capital of Sanandaj.

Air Force units, Navy commandos and the Army helicopters were also dispatched to the area to crush a rebellion that local officials in Sanandaj said was imaginary.

During the mobilization a U.S.-supplied Phantom F4 fighter-bomber crashed near the southern port of Bushahr. The state radio said the plane went down yesterday "while on maneuvers" before being sent to Kurdistan.

Indian Cabinet Loses Support, Quits

INDIA, From A1

mandated that he stop prosecution in special courts of her and her son, Sanjay, in return for their support. Gandhi had denied trying to pressure Singh, who was jailed by her and once said she should be publicly whipped for her actions during the emergency.

"Some things are more valuable than a mere prime ministership," said Singh in his resignation statement.

She had no choice but to reject support from brothers which sought interference in the normal functioning of the judiciary. I would not have liked to continue in power even for a day yielding to this kind of blackmail.

Singh became prime minister after engineering mass defections from the government of Morarji Desai, who took over in 1977 when Gandhi was defeated. But Singh depended on the Gandhi votes to amass his parliamentary majority.

Desai, 83, who last month wanted a chance to try again to form a working cabinet, decided to withdraw from politics.

In a statement yesterday, Desai said

that Ram, who at 72 is the youngest of the politicians trying to be prime minister should be given a chance to form a new government.

Ram, who has Singh and Desai battle out last month in the first round to form the government appeared confident last night that he could pull together "an absolute majority."

He starts with a base of about 225 votes from the Janata Party that he took over from Desai—still the largest group in the lower house.

Observers here said he will easily get support from about 25 members of regional parties and could gain another 25 votes from members who would do anything to thwart Gandhi.

That would put him either very close to or just over more than the 270 votes needed to win a bare majority in the 539-member lower house of the parliament.

Reuters reported from New Delhi that the parliamentary leader of Gandhi's party told President Reddy that Ram would be allowed to form the government.

Observers here said that Singh, whose power base is among the small landlords and farmers of North India and who only joined the national po-

litical scene two years ago, was out of his depth in the hurly-burly of vote trading in New Delhi.

Ram, though, has served in all of India's cabinets with but a one-year break since the country gained independence in 1946.

He was the defense minister in the Desai government, and as such is believed by some American diplomats to be the most hawkish of the Indian political leaders. But other diplomats here think he will moderate those views if he becomes prime minister and has a broader constituency than the military establishment.

If he is given the bid to form the new government, Ram's biggest problem will be what to do about the Hindi nationalist, 100-member Jan Sangh faction in his Janata coalition.

He must depend on it for his majority, but the faction's strong push to make Hindi the national language has angered political leaders representing religious minorities in India.

According to Reuters, Ram will not have the support of the Gandhi bloc if he includes Jan Sangh members in his cabinet. But that would mean the exclusion of such prominent leaders as Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the former foreign minister who is considered a



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