



MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM AMERICAN BENEFITS PLANNING, INC.

Dear Friends,

December 2007



Christmas has come so fast this year. Time is slipping by so quickly, I am reminded how fragile and brief life is and how, without Jesus, we would all be hopeless; but because God loved us, He gave us His son and gave us hope. I am so thankful to each of you for making it possible for me to bring hope to these wonderful people through these projects of ours. They have a value that one cannot compute in dollars and cents and I am



eternally grateful to each of you for making it possible. For the first time since we started I was able to convince my wife Liz to accompany me on my inspection of the projects in Thailand. She was a real trooper. We even had to eat Bamboo worms and crickets in one of our villages and she not only ate them, she ate them first! For those of you who don't know Liz, that was an act of God. It didn't hurt to have a sweet old lady staring at us and apologizing over and over that she didn't have any meat to serve her honored guests.

The villages are doing great! The orphanages and schools are also in good shape although one of the CFI orphanages we built in Myanmar was burned down when it was hit with an RPG in a SPDC attack. All the children had been evacuated to a "safe" location.



The Boarding house we started last year is now complete and had its official opening ceremony in October. It turned out very nice and will change the living conditions of those orphans dramatically. Sorry to say, we were unable to visit our projects in Mahongson because the smoke from the forest fires was so thick they had to close the Airport for a week.



My son Ben has returned home for a while and is to be married in December to Eh Moo Sha,



and is to be married in December to Eh Moo Sha, (“Emma”). Emma is a Karen born in a refugee camp of 50,000 people and has lived there behind razor wire her whole life until now. Ben met her when he was teaching English in the camp 6 years ago. We have been trying to get her out for 3 years and were finally successful in getting her refugee status this June. The future is always unsure for young people and for few years Emma is prohibited from leaving the country, but they do hope to return to Thailand in the future to help the Karen people. Emma speaks 5 languages and helped the UN as an interpreter.

I’m sure all of you have heard about the recent unrest in Burma (Myanmar). The persecution of innocent people has increased to the point that this year we are going to focus our energies inside Burma. Two years ago when I was in Thailand with my son in law (an Army Ranger Major), he arranged a meeting for us with someone I had heard about for several years. His name is Dave Eubanks and he is the heart and soul of the “Free Burma Rangers” (FBR). It was late in the afternoon an hour out of Chang Mai, about a hundred degrees when we turned down a country road and into the FBR compound. About a half dozen camo clad young men were lounging around in the open air house while downstairs a huge pile of filthy gear lay giving off an aroma that permeated the entire compound. They had just returned that morning from a three month mission deep into Burma. As we talked with Dave about the vision of FBR it was easy to see how he could recruit young men and women to join him in his mission. His zeal was infectious and you just wanted to grab a backpack and head out that afternoon.



Dave is the son of missionaries to Thailand/Burma and was in the US Army Delta Force. He uses this training to go where very few would dare. Their teams go into Burma and search for the battle zones. When they find an area where the SPDC (Bad guys) are murdering, raping, burning villages , etc. they go right to the spot to give aid and comfort to the people (often within sight of the burning villages). They go in armed but are not there to engage the Burmese. They are there to provide medical assistance, food, spiritual support, and help

relocating if necessary. They also document the atrocities of the Burmese army (SPDC). They only engage the enemy if the villagers can’t run, in which case they stand in the gap until extrication of the villagers is complete. This year we are funding a number of these missions complete with medical supplies, food, clothing, mosquito nets, etc. For further information and more pictures, feel free to visit their website: www.freeburmarangers.org

As always, we have made a donation on your behalf for Christmas. If any of you want to make an additional donation, please make your checks payable to “World Aid, Inc.” and put a note in the remarks that it is for the “Thai-Burma Missions, Relief Teams” and forward to us for processing.

We can’t tell you how much we value your loyalty and friendship!

Sincerely,

Donald B. Hoffman
CFP, CLU, RHU, LUTCF
President

David Peterson
Broker

Birgit Ralston
Client Services Manager

