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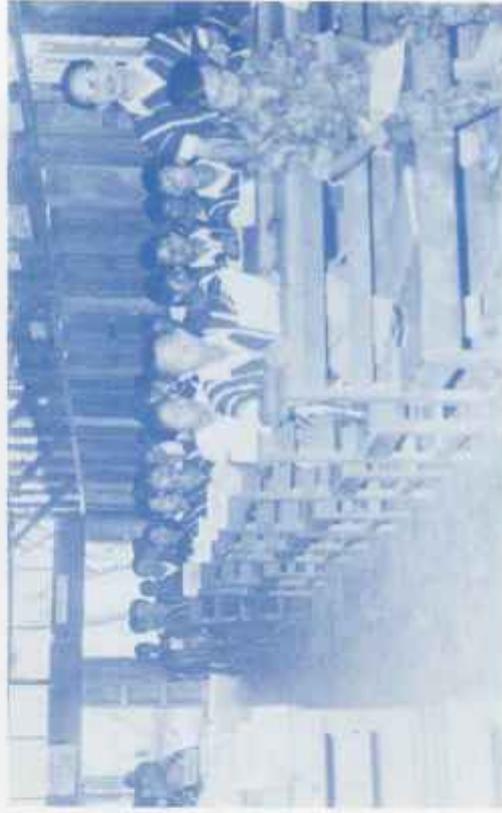
*Youth delegates from Pa-an District*



*Karen youth organization central executive committee*



*Youth delegates from Mergui/Tayoy District*



*Leaders and delegates at KYO central annual meeting.*

## THE BURMESE CONNECTION

*By, A. Chiel.*

The landslide victory of the National League for Democracy in the May General Election has put the Government of Burma in a difficult position. No longer can it claim that calls for democratic reform represent the opinion of a handful of students, agitators and separatists. Clearly the vast majority of the Burmese people have passed an unequivocal vote of no confidence on the Saw Maung regime. How that regime will react to this challenge is difficult to predict, but a prompt, orderly handover of power the only honourable cause is not considered likely.

The events of August/September 1988 and the subsequent waves of terror, persecution and repression must now be viewed as confirmation that the Rangoon Government is officially at war with the people of Burma. The fact that those in power are so able to control and dominate a population diametrically opposed to it, owes much to a callous and brutal military establishment. Maintaining the Army's loyalty and keeping it supplied with the means of oppression is a costly business. Where, then, does the money come from ?

It is generally acknowledged the Burma's foreign exchange reserves are at an

all time low. despite ruthless and wilful exploitation of its natural resources, the country remains among the world's seven poorest nations, with sufficient reserves to pay for only two weeks of imports.

Wholesale destruction of teak stands, depletion of fishery stocks, cheap sales of oil, gem stones and mineral deposits, the cynical manipulation of the rice markets all at the expenses of the people's present and future prosperity combine to produce revenue, but even these increasingly desperate measures fail to account for the current levels of government expenditure.

the upkeep of an unwieldy and inefficient civil administration is expensive enough, but the most debilitation drain on Burma's resources is the so-called defence budget, for a nation with no external enemies, Burma spends a phenomenal proportion of (GNP) on the military establishment. Informed estimates vary from 40-60% of all expenditure. Clearly the cost of suppressing the general population, together with the prosecution of genocidal wars against the Karens and other ethnic groups is an exorbitant one which is bleeding the country dry.

Military personnel are among the highest paid of Burma's state employees. Further, a badly led incompetently administered standing army of around a quarter of a million men consumes vast amounts of provisions and material. Anyone monitoring the 89/90 dry season offensive against Karen positions along the Moei and Salween rivers would be forgiven for thinking that money grew on trees. The barrage of motaring and shelling laid down by government forces was heavy when it wasn't incessant. With 105 mm howitzer shells, for example, costing around ten thousand bahts each on the open market, expenditure on these rounds alone must have run into hundreds of millions of baht. Given the bankruptcy of Rangoon's pay-masters on paper at least how are they able to find so much money, literally, to burn? If not from trees, from plants perhaps?

As the world's largest producer of opium, Burma has a shameful and unenviable reputation abroad. Why, then, is the government so reluctant to take up arms against the producers of this poison and its deadly derivatives morphine and heroin? Why should the main thrust of its military might be directed instead against the Karen people, who are fiercely opposed to drugs of all kinds? Why do so many military commanders in the Shan state and other

opium producing areas live of object luxury while most of the country goes hungry? These questions can have only one answer, and it is that those in the Saw Maung regime are active participants in the most odious drug-dealing conspiracy the world has ever known.

As well as logical deduction, there is growing evidence to suggest that much of the cost of military repression of the Burmese people and the ethnic nationalities is being financed by cynical exploitation of the weaknesses and addictions of drug-users in the west and in other developed areas of the world. Thus the Rangoon regime is guilty not only of being an enemy of its own people, but of the people of other countries as well. Such calculated evil makes the Italian mafia, by comparison, look like a bunch of boy-scouts.

Whilst it is difficult to substantiate these charges, reports and testimony collected by this correspondent add up to damning evidence of a high level conspiracy to profit from the production, trafficking and sale of refined heroin. The operation, in the Shan state at least, runs something like this: Raw opium is bought up by agents who consolidate the crop and deliver it to one or other of six known refineries. It goes without saying that these refineries operate with the tacit approval of local military commanders.

The refined heroin is then concealed inside specially prepared teak logs. These are loaded onto flat-bed trucks and transported to Rangoon docks, where they are transferred onto vessels of the Five stars Line merchant fleet. At this stage we lose sight of the deadly cargo, although evidence suggests that much of it is unloaded in India, Where exist long-established networks for the distribution of drugs to the markets of the world.

One witness who fled to Thailand from Burma earlier this year, asserts that on occasion the subterfuge of concealment is dispensed with, and that rice bags containing the drugs are loaded directly onto army lorries. In either case it is inconceivable that the large amounts of

heroin produced at the refineries could be transferred without the collusion of local ranking military officers. By the same token it is defficult to imagine that such a large scale operation could be coducted without the involvement of even more senior figures in the Rangoon administration.

How high up the ghastly pecking order within that regime the conspiracy extends is anybody's guess but, given the tight control of all activities inside Burma it is reasonable to assume that it almost certainly goes right to the top. To corroborate this assumption it is reliably reported that one such military convoy passed through Rangoon on its way to the docks during a carefully-timed power cut. Such a diversion could hardly have been orchestrated wihtout approval at the highest level.



*Escaped enemy porters at KNU area.*

It is perhaps, a sign of the greed and desperation of the Saw Maung administration that it should resort to such direct involvement in this evil trade in order to prop up an increasingly fragile power base. The complex and rapidly changing politics of her/bin in South East Asia demand that players operate ever more sophisticated and imaginative schemes to get the stuff out. In this respect the Burmese connection is by no means the most intelligent operation in the region.

It would seem that the recalcitrance of the likes of Khun Sa, together with the sharply higher commissions being demanded by the

various culpable border authorities have pushed Rangoon into increasingly blatant and reckless measures.

to be poor is no disgrace. To squander the abundant natural resources of a once great and respected Asian Nations in pursuit of absolute power is less excusable. To conspire in the production and exportation of the seeds of death and destruction in order to maintain that power demonstrates spiritual bankruptcy of the lowest order. If there is the saving grace to be found in the Ne Win-Saw Maung catalogue of crimes against humanity, it is hard to know where to look for it.



*These logs await export from border area to Thailand by Saw Maung Military Junta.*



*What she could collect from the ashes of her burnt house*

## Burning Down the Houses: Burma's New Military Strategy

The sixty houses of Taquilaw village are nothing but blackened charcoal sticks protruding from the ground, a sorry tribute to what was once a thriving village in the Karen State of Burma. Burnt palm leaves have fallen everywhere and crunch underfoot. There is not much else: a lone ceramic pot, a flattened basket, broken glass.

At Taquilaw, a young husband tells the story of his wife and two month old baby gunned down by a Burmese soldier, after being forced to walk in front of the troops to check for mines. His Two year-old daughter was left for dead strapped to the back of a 16-year-old girl who was also shot to death. Saw Pakeh's few possessions and meagre savings were stolen as well. This was the case with most all the villagers who had fled to the jungle while the Burmese made their mark. When the soldiers torched the rice barn and the 2,000 baskets of rice harvested for the rainy season, they sealed the lid on any hopes of rebuilding the village in the future. But to be absolutely sure, said one villager, "they said they would kill us if we tried to return." So the Karens of Taquilaw have taken to the jungle living with naught to their names.

"Now I live in the jungle with my daughter and my mother," says Saw pahkeh, the young widower, "I have one shirt and one longyi (sarong). We don't even have any plates. The soldiers took them."

That was three months ago, on February 4, but Saw Pahkeh's story is just one version of the many in the Burmese stepped-up strategy to wipe out the ethnic minorities in Burma.

According to Karen National Union (KNU) Prime Minister Saw Ba Thin, "The Burmese government has launched a new offensive," he says. "Whenever they Burmese army arrive at a village, they burn it down, they shoot people on site, they torture others, and destroy the crops. The people have to run for their lives and become refugees living in their own country."

The war is not news. The Karen's have been living in Burma for centuries, having migrated from the Gobi Desert region of Mongolia where they lived some 4,500 years before. They have been fighting for the right to govern themselves in Burma for over 40 years now.

According to President General Saw Bo Mya of the KNU, the Karens are not "rebel insurgents" as the Burmese military has branded them. "We are only asking to be equal," he said. "We want to be one of a federation of states along with the other ethnic minorities of Burma. But, says Bo Mya, "the government doesn't want to give democracy to the people. They don't want to share equal rights with all the ethnic groups in the country." There are up to 67 different ethnic minorities living in Burma and seven minority states. The Karens are one of the largest with 5 million people concentrated in the southern central part of the country and the largest military force fighting the Burmese army.

Several KNU officials say the motivation behind the Burmese offensive is clearly economic. Since the bloody coup of September 1988, Burma's economy has been in ruins. As a result, the government has been desperate for funds. One lucrative business is their logging concessions with Thailand. There are currently over 20 Thai/Burmese logging concessions in operation. Because the Karens control much of the Thai/Burmese border, the Karens are a serious obstacle for Burmese trading with Thailand.

As a result, says Bo Mya, the Burmese government issued an edict two years ago to "eliminate the Karens, once and for all." And the push has been on ever since. The Karens, because of their military might are the strategic domino to topple. Says Bo Mya, the Burmese believe the other minority groups will fall easily after that.

In addition to increased brutality, new tactics involve intimidation of Karen villagers living in Karen State. They are being punished for acts committed against the Burmese military by the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA), the fighting arm of the KNU. According to a Karen officer Ganemy, one villager was recently fined 6 million kyats (U.S.\$\_\_\_) for a Burmese army truck which the KNLA destroyed. The effect this has on the villagers, and in-turn, the KNLA, is significant. The villagers have always seen the KNLA as their heroes, the "freedom fighters" of the Karen. When ever the KNLA soldiers have passed through a village, the villagers have welcomed them into their homes and shared whatever rice and food they've had. They often help serve as the eyes and ears for the KNLA on Burmese movements in the jungle as well. But now many live in fear of brutal recriminations

from the Burmese military.

What might seem like a no-win situation, however, is just another day of war for the Karen. Even after four decades of war, they remain undaunted in their struggle for freedom. Says Bo Mya, "Our border area is very long and if our position is overrun in one area, we'll just shift to another." He also holds out for assistance from the outside world. "It seems that the superpowers are coming to realize the Burmese government is not a democratic one and are violating human rights. We can only hope that someday the world will be on the side of freedom and will help us remove this unpopular government."

Until that day, it seems peace **will** evade the Karen and other ethnic minorities of Burma, but their conviction to oust the current military regime holds strong. As one

monk put it, "Though we are non-violent and we practice peace, the Burmese come through and invade us and use their guns. They kill the villagers and take what they want. Yes, we are monks, but we don't want them to be at the head of the government. for us now, we want the Karen revolution to win."

Carol Conragan

May 90

Mae Sot, Thailand.



*Taquilaw village was burnt down by the Burmese troops*

## Porters Offer Testimony of Human Rights Abuses By Burmese Army

### Pan-an Province, Karen State, Burma

on April 14, six Burmese men who had survived a 44-day ordeal as porters for the Burmese army arrived in the Karen town of Maesit offering yet more testimony of the human rights abuses committed against porters by the Burmese military regime. The men's shoulders, backsides and feet were covered with open sores from the strain of carrying heavy packs and from beatings by the Burmese soldiers.

According to the six men (who asked that their names not be used), Burmese soldiers from the 28 regiment entered their homes on February 26, tied their wrists and brought them to the 44 division headquarters in Hlaingbwe. In all six cases, the men could not pay the protection fee of approximately \$80 U.S. a month exempting them from conscription as porters. In their town of Shwegun alone, "every month the military come and take more than 100 people for the front line," said one of the porters, "even children as young as ten, women and girls."

In the jungle, the porters had to carry about 50 kilos of supplies a day for 12-hour days that began at five in the morning. The packs were so heavy, one said, "someone

else had to lift them onto our backs." The packs were held in place using a rope which came around the forehead preventing any movement of the head. The men walked an average of 40 km a day, sharing a cup of water between them and eating one handful of rice. "If we asked to go to the bathroom," another added, "the soldiers would often beat us."

"After a few days of this, " said a 44-year-old day laborer with four children, "some people could not walk anymore. They were left in the jungle. I don't know what happened to them. We were just told to go on ahead."

originally there were about 64 porters and 100 soldiers in the group, "but because the group was always changing, there was no way to tell how many were left to die," said a 35-year-old brickmaker with one child. Within the first two days, I saw two men killed," He said. "They were hit with big logs and left unconscious, another in our group got sick with fever, "he continued, " but no one gave him any medicine. He screamed and screamed and finally died."

On april 10 at 2 am, when the guard had gone to the other end of the line, the men made a run for it. "We made a vow that we would run, even at the risk of getting shot, we knew we would die eventually anyway," one said. The man walked that whole night and the next day, til they came to a village and met a Karen soldier who took them to his troop. There they were given medicine and food and were allowed to rest.

According to the day laborer, the Burmese said if the porters tried to escape, the Karen soldiers would probably capture them and cut their throats, "so we prayed not to see anyone on the way, and we were surprised to be treated so kindly by the Karen". A Karen guide was going to lead the group back home, and the former porters were hoping to go back secretly to their city. But a 23-year-old farmer with two

children said, "I'm worried about my future when I go back. I pray they won't find me. But we all must go back. Our families and children are there."

The 1989 U.S. State Department Annual Report on Burma confirms the human rights abuses dealt to porters and cites eyewitness reports of deaths. According to the report, porters have died being "forced to walk ahead of troops through mine-infested terrain." They've also died of gangrene, and from falling to their deaths on mountain paths, and from disease due to lack of food, clothing and medicine. Those who could no longer walk have been shot to death as well.

May 90  
 Carol Conragan  
 Mae sot, Tak



*Head of the Forest department p'doh Aung San and some of the forest guards.*

## "They are not our Kinsfolk"

"Shoot, if they run away. Beat them, if they move clumsily. Leave them behind, if they get wounded or killed. Don't have mercy on them. They are not our Kinsfolk".

The operation commander of No. (14) regiment gave orders to his young officers and soldiers, to deal with porters as above, before they launched a major operation against No. (20) Karen Regiment strong hold near Salween.

By tracing the above-mentioned orders, we can analyse the symbol and basic attitude of the operation commander as follows :-

He is not a so called Peoples' Army commander, who loves his country and people. He has inhumane behavior, ready to conduct anything for his own interest whether weal and woe. He loves only power and rank. He is a war-monger who is happy to prolong civil war which makes him profits in power and money.

The potential readers may be interested to set the following questions with regard to that operation commander.

1. Where was he trained and brought up?
2. Was he trained to torture and kill

his own people ?

3. Was he trained to wage brutal war for his power and rank ?

4. Does he know where he get weapons from and how to use them ?

5. Does he know the army is established to defend its people ?

6. Are all the high-ranking military officers in Burma Army ruthless and power-mongers ?

7. Are they realize they are the main culprits in violating democracy and human rights ?

8. Are they mercenaries and license holders to torture and kill the civilians at random ?

### **The atrocities committed by No. (14) Regiment.**

In early March this year, No. (14) Regiment press-ganged over (300) civilians to use them as porters in stepping up operation against No. (20) Karen Regiment strong-hold near Salween. Each porter had to carry a heavy load weighed between (40) and (50) kilograms. Along the way they were tied together six in each group by ropes around their waists and ankles and were made to carry rations, arms and ammunition. Linked together in this way they were unable to run and could only walk. They were not

given and fed with enough food and eatables. Medical care treatments were negelected to the sick-porters.

According to the sources from a score of escapees an average of 2/3 died daily during the march from exhaustion, beatings and inhumane activities. Having had no care and pity's sake towards the sick porter some were died of malaria and starvation. But their loads had to carry by other porters in addition to their loads. With heavy loads on

their backs, they had to cross through many hills, spurs, draws, cliffs and valley. They were treated as animals, ordered to march ahead of the soldiers and acted as human mine detectors.

one escapee sighed and expressed in deep sorrow, "We have no enough time to eat, to sleep or even to ease ourselves in the remote jungle. We were behaved brutally by every soldier.



*Enemy porters arrived at KNLA No. 20 regiment Head quarters*

### **Salween polluted with blood and corpses**

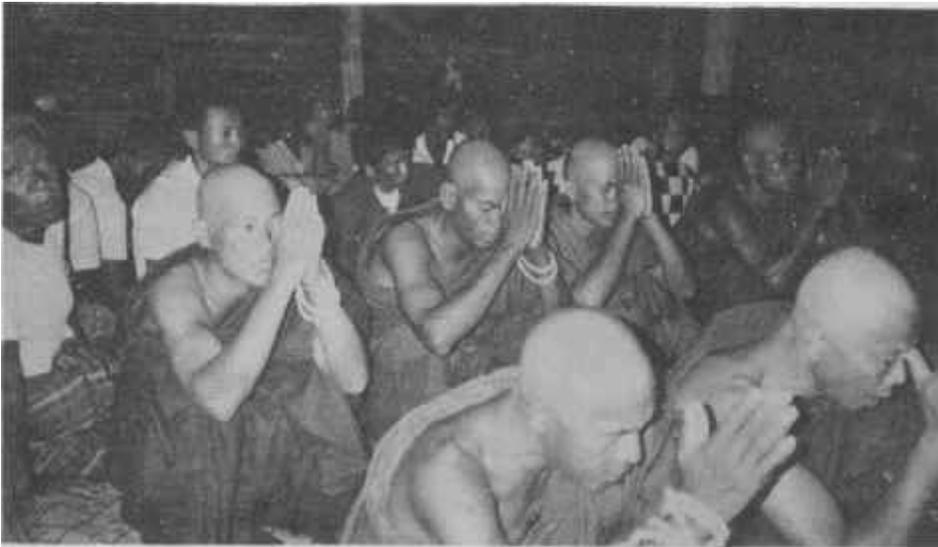
On 7 April, 1990 twelve porters tried to escape but failed. At 10: AM that day they were allowed to bathe in the Salween. After a short discussion, they decided to take a risk to swim across the violent river to escape from the hands of the barbaric soldiers. By holding a long pole, they swam together but when they reached the centre of the river, they were caught by an eddy (whirl pool) which drove them back. At the time, the

soldiers who were watching the scene from the bank shouted, "Shoot them all, they are not our Kinsfolk. "So they all were shot to death in the water and the beautiful Salween was painted with red blood and polluted with corpses.

The practice of portering is not a new development, countless innocent civilians are press-ganged to serve as porters for the Burmese Army in every operation

throughout the country. Those who died in porter service received no compensation. Life of a porter in Burmese Army is horror of cruelty.

Who can abolish the practice of such portering in Burma? No one can but only by means of reasonable solution to end the civil war which retarded the national unity, realization of peace and prosperity in Burma.



*Some of The ABSDF students hearing the sacred Buddhist prayers after receiving Ordination.*

## **MEDIA RELEASE OF THE DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE OF BURMA (DAB) ON BURMA'S MAY 27, 1990 MULTI-PARTY GENERAL ELECTIONS**

1. The Democratic Alliance of Burma warmly welcomes the preliminary results of Burma's May 27, 1990 elections. These results plainly revealed the disgust of the entire people on military dictatorship and their desire for democracy and internal peace, we admire the people on their stand on democracy and peace. We appreciate friendly countries, national leaders, politicians, and international media who firmly stand on the side of democracy and

human rights and putting pressure on the Rangoon military junta.

2. The Democratic Alliance of Burma believes that internal peace could be worked out through peaceful political means and only after that a federal constitution should be drafted with the participation of all ethnic nationalities, including the Democratic Alliance of Burma.

3. The Democratic Alliance of Burma demands that,

(1) The State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) immediately and honestly hand over state power to representatives elected by the people.

(2) The SLORC releases all detained political prisoners, including Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi, U Tin U, U Nu.

4. The Democratic Alliance of Burma calls upon elected parties, the people of Burma who cherish Democracy and Internal Peace, friendly countries, national leaders, politicians and international media who desire to restore democracy and human rights in Burma to continue their pressure and help till democracy, Human Rights and Internal Peace are achieved.

Central Executive Committee  
Democratic Alliance of Burma

30 May 1990



*KNU General secretary P'doh Saw Ba Thin at the opening ceremony of N.D.F's Federal University*

## **Policy Statement of the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) on Establishment of a Federal Union of States**

In view of the Saw Maung military Junta's intensification of its false accusations of the DAB as bandits and destroyers of the Union, the DAB deems it necessary to clarify its position as follows:

1. Since time immemorial, Burma has been a land composed of different nationalities. Civil war and revolts have been raging in the country as a result of the nationalities having to struggle for their historical rights, equal opportunity, democratic freedom and human rights, denied by successive ruling dictators. It is our historical duty to establish a genuine federation to resolve the various problems plaguing Burma and endeavor to set up a modern and advanced nation.

Following the 1988 mass uprising, Buddhist monks, students and thousands of civilians came to join hands with the revolutionary forces of the ethnic nationalities. In time, they became aware of the bitter experiences, various sufferings and injustices of the nationalities. As a consequence, they came to accept the nationalities' just struggle against the military dictatorship for the establishment of a "Federal Union of States.

Previously, they rejected the concept of Federalism due to years of subjection to false propaganda under the BSPP regime. The national struggles currently occurring all over the world firmly support this concept.

Uniting the various indigenous nationalities, Buddhist monks and students, the DAB which came into existence after the 1988 uprising, has been fighting against the military dictatorship for full democratic rights and the establishment of a Federal Union of States based on:

- a) The equality and self-determination of all the nationalities;
- b) The federation of states including a Burman state;
- c) A multi-party political system guaranteeing full democratic freedom, social justice and human rights; and
- d) A legislature consisting of a national assembly and people's assembly, by which the power is shared between the central government and states.

2. The immediate formation of Burma as a Federal Union of States of the indigenous

nationalities, based on the principles of federation mentioned above, will be the main condition for the cessation of civil war and restoration of peace. Ignoring the need for establishment of a genuine federation and pursuing the policy of total annihilation of insurgency and armed suppression of the legitimate political and national rights of the nationalities is not the correct way of seeking a solution to the cessation of civil war and the achievement of peace. Accordingly, to achieve internal peace, we must concentrate our efforts on the establishment of a genuine Federal Union of States.

3. The policy of the DAB is not secessionist. The Saw Maung military junta is giving publicity to the so-called three tasks of the Burmese armed forces: They are:

- a) Protection of the integrity of the Union;
- b) Protection of the national unity; and
- c) Protection of sovereignty.

In order to achieve the three tasks, there must be recognition of the democratic system guaranteeing the democratic rights of all the citizens. If it is recognized, a new Federal Union of States must be established in order to restore internal peace. The New Federal Union of States shall be a stable foundation for a united and strong sovereign nation.

The federal system which has been demanded and fought for by the indigenous nationalities does not mean secessionism. It is not destruction of the national unity. It is the union of all the indigenous nationalities in a federation with unity.

In order to continue their hold on power and privileges, the military dictators have been shamelessly telling lies to frighten the people by saying that the revolutionary organizations of the nationalities are secessionists or destroyers of unity.

The DAB, Comprising of the Buddhist monks, students, Burmese at home and abroad, and nationality organizations, is working to establish a fully democratic, genuine and just federal union: The DAB solemnly declares that it will never destroy such a federal union nor secede from such a union.

Central Committee

Democratic Alliance of Burma

June 15, 1990

## **Press Communique On Burma Army**

The continued and unconscionable refusal of the Rangoon Military Junta to transfer power to the elected representatives of the National League for Democracy (NLD), which won a landslide victory in the General Elections recently held in Burma, has moved the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) to release this statement concerning its views on the Burma Army.

The Burma Army was founded by our National Leader U Aung San. It valiantly engaged in campaigns against the forces of imperialism and fascism. In these campaigns for freedom from the foreign yoke all indigenous peoples of the land bore the burden, shed blood, and made supreme sacrifices together with the Burma Army. Burma Army, as such, should not be the property of any individual or a clique; it rightfully belongs to the people of Burma.

Sadly, such is not the case. Since the Dawn of Burma independence, successive Rangoon regimes have failed to resolve political problems by political means; instead, the Regimes have molded the Burma Army into a formidable force, unleashing its might upon ethnic people and a helpless citizenry, in the mistaken assumption that their power will remain perpetually sacrosanct. Contrary to the vision of Aung San, the Burma Army was transformed into a tool of tyranny, serving exclusively the interests of those in power, perverting into oppressors of the people rather than guardians of the nation.

Due to patronage thus received from the government of the day, the corrupt leadership of The Burma Army soon cast an avaricious eye towards seizure of power for themselves, and the first attempt became successful in 1958, during which a caretaker government was installed with General Ne Win and his senior officers. That power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely is a truism surely applicable in the case of Burma Army, which staged a coup in March 1962 eviscerating the legal civil government and installing a military dictatorship in Burma, which remains until this day.

The leadership of the Burma Army established a pseudo political party called the Burma Socialist Program Party (BSPP), which ruled the country through a one party military dictatorship. The BSPP was oppressive, incompetent, racist and corrupt, and eventually turned Burma into one of the least developed countries in the world. It destroyed the economy, encouraged civil war, totally dismantled democratic institutions, denied basic

human rights, and engineered a police state through the services of the heinous Military Intelligence (MIS) , which can only be compared to the most rogue and prepressive of institutions.

Indeed, the MIS, created by Ne Win, has fostered a climate of parvasive paranoia in which even military officers are purged on the basis of the flimsiest suspicions of disloyalty, real or imagined.

In the aftermath of the 1988 massacre of innocent pro-democracy demonstrators, a mock coup was staged by the power structure, establishing an apparatus for the perpetuation of rule by force. This apparatus is known as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC). Under the aegis of the SLORC, the MIS and the Burma Army continue pitiless patterns of terror and misrule, while rationalizing its stranglehold on power by insisting that they are the force responsible for holding the nation together. In fact, they are the force responsible for tearing the nation apart.

In an attempt to curry international favour, the SLORC, as promised, held elections relying upon the false assumption that a puppet government subservient to their will would be elected. The condescension implicit in their certainty of victory underscores the regime's alienation from, and contempt for, the intelligence of the Burmese people. Indeed, the people of Burma braved the regime's intimidation tactics, and resoundingly granted their mandate to the National League for Democracy (NLD). The Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) noted that significant segments of the Burma Armed Forces rank and file vote with their consciences, signifying support for the democratic aspirations of the people.

The nation is at a crossroads, and the whole world is watching. The people of Burma have shed their blood on the long and arduous road to this historic juncture; there is no turning back. The DAB, in fervent solidarity with the people of Burma, is cautiously optimistic that enlightened segments within the Burma Armed Forces will cooperate with the Burmese people and urge the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) to immediately transfer power to the duly elected representatives of the NLD, and strive together for the achievement of internal peace and Democracy.

Central Committee

Democratic alliance of Burma.

## DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE OF BURMA GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

June 20, 1990

### Press Statement By The Central Executive Committee

A meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) held on June 19, 1990 deliberated upon matters concerning the multi-party General Elections on May 27, the refusal to transfer power by the military junta under various pretexts, and the consequences of a probable mass-uprising due to the procrastination tactics.

On the basis of conclusions reached at the meeting, the DAB calls upon the National League for Democracy (NLD), the party which has won the nation's mandate by a land-slide victory:

- (1) To meet the military junta officially, and discuss the immediate and unreserved transfer of power;
- (2) To disclose the nation, in case of refusal or delay in the transfer of power by the military junta, all facts prevailed in the said meeting;
- (3) To convene the parliament of all the elected representatives and form the government;
- (4) To strive for international recognition of the government formed;
- (5) To work for ending of the civil war and restore peace; and
- (6) To call a national convention of representatives of all the ethnic entities, political parties and organizations, including those of the Democratic Alliance of Burma and National Democratic Front (NDF), for drafting the constitution of the future federal republic of Burma.

The (DAB) reiterates its fundamental position solemnly and explicitly and declared in a policy statement issued on June 15, 1990, that the Democratic Alliance of Burma shall never destroy nor secede from the federal union.

The (DAB) urges the military junta, on its part, to renounce militarism it has clung to, and defend democracy the Burmese people committed to establish.

We, the Democratic Alliance of Burma, solemnly pledge to struggle on hand in hand with the people to remove the military dictatorship, restore internal peace, and return democratic and human rights.

To realize these ends, we vow to continue until final victory for the people of Burma is achieved ; the creation of a peaceful, prosperous and a new federal republic of Burma

Central Executive Committee  
Democratic Alliance of Burma.



*KYO secretary P'doh Ganemy at KYO day*

## **Some Important Successes of KNLA troops from March to June 1990**

### **No. (1) Military Zone (Thaton District)**

During April 1990, there were (3) arm clashes between enemy and our troops, and in those clashes enemy suffered (16) killed, (6) wounded and our troops captured one G. 2 rifle and one sten gun. One enemy soldier surrendered to our troops together with one G 3. rifle.

Our troops attacked enemy No. 5 Light Infantry Bn. column (2), on 28.5.90 and 29.5.90, enemy suffered (2) killed, one wounded. On 1.6.90 our troops attacked enemy at Kret So, (7) enemy killed and (4) wounded including one Coy. Commander. On 16.5.90 our troops destroyed a bridge on Nat Gyi/Bin Lin road.

On 16.5.90, our troops attacked enemy at Ta Ut Ni, one enemy killed and one wounded. On 16.5.90, our KNDO No. (2) Bn. attacked enemy No. 24 regiment near Noh Pah Lai village, (4) enemy killed and our troops captured (2) G. 3 rifles and some Ammos.

On 19.5.90 an enemy car was hit by our land mine and all the rank and file in the car were killed.

On 13.6.90, our troops ambushed enemy at Ka Mar Sei road (3) enemy killed (2) wounded.

## **No. 2. Military Zone (Toungoon District)**

On 4.3.90, our troops attacked enemy at A Lai Kyun, (2) enemy killed and our troops captured one carbine. On 28.5.90, our troops attacked enemy near Maw Pah Der, (3) enemy killed and (4) wounded. On 3.6.90 our troops attacked enemy at Kwe Hta and Ti Ghaw Day, (2) enemy killed and (4) wounded.

## **No. 3. Military Zone (Nyaung Le Bin District)**

On 19.3.90 our troops clashed with enemy at Tei Kay Hta, enemy suffered (23) killed.

On 18.4.90, our troops attacked enemy at Auk Sake Gone village 4 enemy killed and one wounded.

On 21.4.90 our troops attacked enemy at Ti Ker Lai Klo, (2) enemy killed and one wounded. On that same day one enemy killed and (4) wounded by our land mines. On 30.4.90, our combined troops intercepted enemy No. 53 and 59 regiments, (8) enemy soldiers and (2) porters were killed and our troops captured (2) G. 2 rifles, one G. 3 rifle, one carbine, one 2 inches Mortar, one generator and some military equipments. On 10.5.90, (5) enemy killed and (9) wounded by our land mines at Kaw Lar Wah Lu.

From, 11.5.90, to 16.6.90, our troops attacked enemy at three different places, enemy suffered, (12) killed including one major and (3) wounded. Our troops captured one . 303 rifle.

## **No. 4 Military Zone. (Mergui/Tavoy District)**

During the month of March, there were (6) arm clashes between enemy and our troops and in those clashes enemy suffered (10) killed and (23) wounded, our troops captured one sten gun and one . 303 rifle. Two enemy were also wounded by our land mines.

During the month of April, there were (4) arm clashes between enemy and our troops, enemy suffered (26) killed including one Lieutenant and (18) wounded including one company commander. Our troops set fire on the whole Ye Pyu police station.

During the month of May, there were (3) arm clashes between enemy and our troops and in those clashes enemy suffered, (10) killed (5) wounded. On 18.5.90 (6) enemy were wounded by our land mines. On 12.5.90 one enemy car was crashed and (5) enemy soldiers were killed.

During the month of June, there were (6) arm clashes between enemy and our troops, enemy suffered (2) killed (12) wounded. (2) enemy including one Coy. Commander were killed and (14) wounded by our land mines. Our troops captured one carbine, one G. 3 rifle and one pistol. During

the month of June, one enemy soldier surrendered to our troops together with one G. 3 rifle.

### **No. 5 Military Zone (Dooplaya district)**

From 3.3.90 to 14.3.90 our troops had (7) arm clashes with enemy (8) enemy killed and (9) wounded.

From 12.3.90 to 29.3.90 there were (10) arm clashes between enemy and our troops, enemy suffered (24) killed and (33) wounded. From 31. 3.90 to 4.4.90, there were (7) arm clashes between enemy and our troops, enemy suffered (12) killed and (17) wounded.

On 7.4.90, our troops attacked enemy No. 120 Light Infantry Bn. (5) enemy including one battalion commander were wounded. From 9.4.90 to 25.4.90, there were (7) arm clashes between enemy and our troops, enemy suffered (7) killed and (16) wounded.

On 24.5.90, one enemy police surrendered to us, bringing with him one. 303 rifle. On 20.5.90 and 23.5.90, our troops engaged with enemy inflicting (2) enemy killed and (4) wounded. On 16.6.90 and 17.6.90 our troops attacked enemy in two places, enemy suffered, (5) killed and (5) wounded.

### **No. 6 Military Zone (Pa-an District)**

On 8.5.90 our troops ambushed enemy at Pai Kyung (2) enemy killed and (3) wounded. On 12.6.90 our troops attacked enemy at Pah Ka Loo village (2) enemy killed and (3) wounded. On 18.6.90 our troops engaged with enemy at Ti Toh Kot, enemy suffered (1) Killed (3) wounded. On 27.6.90 our troops clashed with enemy at Lay Ka Ti lasting (4) hours, enemy suffered (8) killed and (15) wounded and one wounded from our side.

During the month of June, (5) enemy killed and (14) wounded by our land mines, including a Coy. Commander Aung Mee. On 22.6.90 enemy soldier Htay Sein from No. 1 regiment surrendered to us together with one G. 3 rifle.

### **No. 20 Battllion (Papun district)**

On 9.4.90 our troops attacked enemy camp at Papun, (7) enemy were captured alive together with (3) rifles. The whole enemy camp was burnt down by our troops. On 9.4.90 (2) enemy soldiers from No. 28 regiment surrendered to our troops bringing with them, one carbine and one G.3 rifle. On 12.4.90, (2) enemy including one lieutenant were wounded by our land mines. On 19.4.90 and 21.4.90, (3) enemy trucks were hit by our land mines, (19) enemy were killed including one battalion and one platoon commander. On 2.5.90 one enemy killed and (8) wounded by our land mines. From 11.3.90 to 3.5.90 enemy troops launched an attack on our No. 20 battalion and Mutraw District head quarters, using thousands of their troops power, bombard our positions with heavy weapons. During that period there were several arm chashes between enemy and our troops. In those clashes

enemy suffered (27) killed and (121) wounded from No. (1) regiment. (3) killed and (16) wounded from No. (14) regiment, (17) killed and (90) wounded from 26 regiment, (28) killed an (83) wounded from (53) regiment, (10) killed and (35) wounded from No. (80) regiment, (1) killed and one wounded from No. (19) regiment. During that whole period, (13) of our soldiers sacrificed their lives for our national cause and (61) wounded. (5) enemy were captured alive.

On 20.5.90 (2) enemy killed and (1) wounded by our heavy weapons. On 6.6.90, our troops attacked enemy near Thay Kwa Kyo, (5) enemy killed and (2) wounded, and our troops captured one G. 3 rifle and one G. 4 rifle. On 18.6.90 our troops engaged with enemy at Lay Khaw Tit, enemy suffered (3) killed (5) wounded and our troops captured (1) G. 3 rifle.

### **No. 101. Special Battalion.**

On 6.4.90, an enemy T.E truck hit by our land mine, killing (40) enemy including (2) officers.

Enemy No. (8) Light Infantry Bn. commander Soe Win looted villagers' catties at Weh Mee Kyo, worth (350000) kyats, and the troops from that battalion killed an old woman and her (16) years old son from Thay ka Ti village.

On 18.4.90 our troops attacked enemy at Ka Maya village, all enemy fled and our troops captured (17) AK assault rifles and some other military equipments. From 20.4.90 to 24.4.90 (5) enemy were wounded by our land mines.

On 18.4.90 our troops ambushed enemy at Ti Wah Blaw, (2) enemy killed and one wounded. On 31.5.90 our troops attacked enemy at Ket Blue hill, one enemy killed and (3) wounded. On 11/5 and 17/5, our troops engaged with enemy, resulting one enemy killed and (3) wounded. On 13.5.90 one enemy killed and one wounded by our land mines. From 29.5.90 to 12.6.90 there were (5) arm clashes between enemy and our troops, enemy suffered (2) killed and (4) wounded.

### **G.H.Q Troops**

On 4.3.90, our troops attacked enemy No. (4) Light Infantry Bn. head quarters at Win Pa, (6) enemy killed and our troops captured (2) G. 2 rifles (2) G. 3 rifles, one G. 4 rifle, (2) Bazooka, one carbine, one magnum rifle, one M. 79 grenade launcher, some ammunitions and military equipments and (5) army flags.

On 20.3.90 and 9.4.90, three enemy soldiers from No. 96, and No. 28 Light Infantry Bns. Surrendered to our troops together with (1) M. 79 grenade launcher, one G. 3 rifle and one carbine. On 26.4.90 and 30.4.90 our troops attacked enemy, resulting (4) enemy killed and (2) wounded.

On 1.5.90, our troops engaged enemy at Paw Hta village and captured (1) G.4 rifle, (2800) rounds

of 7.62 MM ammos. (28) rounds of (81) mm mortar, (32) rounds of two inches Mortar and some military equipment. On 5.5.90, (2) enemy were wounded by our land mines.

On 4.6.90, our troops attacked enemy at Ma Sa Mi, enemy suffered (5) killed (2) wounded.

### **Ta Doh Wah Column.**

On 3.5.90, our troops attacked enemy at Thay Kwa Kyo, all enemy fled, our troops captured one G.2 rifle and one G. 4 rifle

### **D.A.B. Column.**

On 4.5.90, DAB column attacked Bi Lin, all enemy fled. In that battle (4) enemy killed including one Coy. commander and (10) wounded from No. (8) Light Infantry Bn. and (3) killed, (5) wounded from No. 96 Light Infantry Bn. and captured assorted ammos and some military equipments.



*School girls awaiting to present bouquet of flowers to (DAB) soldiers returning from front line.*

We are very grateful to the readers who have responded with contribution, advice and encouragement. We look forward to enjoying the same support and good-will of our readers in the future as well.

We accept a voluntary contribution of US \$ 1 or an equivalent amount in any currency for a copy of KNU Bulletin. Readers living farther away than Thailand usually double that amount.

Once again, readers of the KNU Bulletin who want to make contribution towards the cost of publication and cost of mailing, are requested to kindly send their money orders or cheques to the Editor, KNU Bulletin, PO BOX 22, Maesod, Tak Province, Thailand.

Summary of KNLA Military activities from March to June 1990

Military zone	KNLA attacks	KNLA land mine	ENE CASUALTIES				ENE A/A LOSSES						
			Killed	Wounded	Captured	surrender	total	small arms	Magazines	Ammos;	Heavy weapons		shells rds.
No.1	8		33	14	12	1	60	5					(1) coy. commander wounded. (1) bridge destroyed.
No.2	3	2	7	8			15	1					(1) Ene. major. killed
No.3	7	3	38	18			56	5		1			
No.4	19		55	80		1	136						(2) coy. commanders and (1) Lt. killed one police station destroyed.
No.5	34		58	89		1	148			1			(1) Bn. commander wounded.
No.6	4	1	18	38		1	57	1					(1) Coy. commander wounded.
GHD	4		15	6		3	24	10		4	60		
20 Bn.		4	116	364			480	18					(1) Bn. end (1) platoon commander killed. (1) Lt. wounded (1) Ene. Camp burnt down.
101 Bn.	9		6	13			19						(2) Ene. Officers killed. Ene. Bn. commander see Win looted villagers
Ta Doh Wah column	1							2					cattle worth kyats (35,000/-) killed a woman and her (16) yrs. old son.
DAB	1		7	15			22	17					(1) coy. commander killed.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1017</b>	<b>59</b>		<b>2800</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>60</b>	



*Some of K.Y.O central committee members at the annual meeting.*



*School girls line-up to welcome (DAB) soldiers returning from front line.*



*Some ASDF soldiers of DAB column returning from the fronts were warmly honoured.*



*KNU Joint General secretary p'doh San Lin at KYO central committee annual meeting.*



*President General Bo Mya delivering a speech at KYO day.*



*The KYO leaders and delegates attending annual central committee meeting*