

# DAWN



## **Time For Action**

One year has already elapsed since the general elections were held in May, 1990. Despite the ruling military junta (State Law and Order Restoration Council) hindering the campaign activities of the opposition parties and arresting thousands of political dissidents including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and U Tin Oo, of the National League for Democracy, the entire people bravely expressed their will in 27 May general elections. The NLD, which now constitutes the majority of the NCGUB (National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma), won 82 % of the seats in Parliament.

SLORC has blatantly ignored the results of the elections and has refused to turn over power to the elected deputies of the people. Instead it has increased the arrest and torture of political dissidents.

It is true that a National Convention must be held to create a new constitution for Burma which will be able to bring unity and prosperity to a future democratic Burma. However, it is impossible for the people to express their views freely in such a situation where their basic human rights are non-existent. SLORC has no legal right to sponsor a national convention. It is merely an illegitimate, de facto government which seized power at gun-point. The democratically elected representatives alone have the right to hold a national convention.

According to Article 21 (3) of the International Declaration on Human Rights, "the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of the government, this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret votes or by equivalent free voting procedures".

SLORC's hold on, and abuse of, power is a violation of the internationally accepted Declaration of Human Rights and international law. So, now is the time for international community to take action to exert more economic and political pressure upon Burma's military junta. So we would like to appeal to the international community to impose immediate economic sanctions and arms embargo on Burma and to make vacant the Burma seat at the UN, and recognize the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma as the legitimate representatives of Burma, one year on from their election as such.

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# Australian FM Calls For Burma Sanctions

Australia will seek international support for an arms embargo and trade sanctions against the military regime in Burma.

The minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Senator Evans told parliament yesterday that the elections in Burma (known official as Myanmar) last year had been a fraud, and the international community should be acting to dis-

courage repression of democratic leaders.

Senator Evans cited the recent decision by Burma's ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council to admit to universities only those students who pledged not to engage in political activities. He said Australia would be seeking, with Sweden, to co-sponsor action through the United Nations General Assembly.

"Given the enhanced standing of the UN in the light of development in the past 12 months, we should do what we can to focus the world's attention on the situation in Burma", Senator Evans said. Washington has been instructed to raise the possibility of trade and economic sanction with the United States. Australia would also discuss with China, Singapore and Thailand the prospects for an arms embargo. Senator Evans said it was becoming obvious the military regime, which has ruled Burma since its independence, had never intended handing over control to election leaders. "Indeed, it is now increasingly difficult to avoid the conclusion that, as much as hoped and believed otherwise at the time, (the election) was a fraud to flush out democratic leaders and make it easier to move against the dissident group using increasingly intimidatory methods" he said. At least forty Senator figures in the National League for Democracy--which won a big majority in last year's elections--have been arrested and held without trial.

The NLD and the Democratic Alliances of Burma have since formed a provisional government in opposition to the ruling council. In foreshadowing the international campaign, Senator Evans said Australia would continue to recognize Burma as a State, and would maintain its embassy in Rangoon in order to monitor developments. "Our influence is limited, we have to acknowledge that" he said. "But I believe we must keep on trying". The opposition has strongly backed the call for international action. The coalition's foreign affairs spokesman, Senator Robert Hill, said the UN should make Burma its next cause.

## Indian Buddhist Monks Protest Againsts Burmese Regime

**New Delhi, April**

Members of the All India Bhikkhu Sangha (AIBS) expressed their deep sense of sadness and serious concern at the harassment, torture and atrocities being committed against the Buddhist monks in Burma.

During their two day convention in New Delhi on April 11 and 12 the Buddhist monks of India resolved that the Burmese government stop immediately heinous acts against the revered and noble persons who stand for the selfless service for the benefit and welfare of all humanity. In a statement submitted to the Burmese ambassador in India, the AIBS President Ven. Vishudananda expressed that the AIBS was gravely concerned with the plight of the Buddhist monks in Burma.

The Indian Buddhist organization demanded that the Burmese military regime unconditionally release all Buddhist monks under detention at once and to show Sangha "all the respect and regards as is due to the great followers of the Buddha". The AIBS also urged the junta to give the monks freedom of

movement throughout the country to render service to the Burmese citizens "since their mission is the service of mankind". The organization said it took a serious objection to the acts, committed by the military, of disrobing the monks in Burma and demanded that they stop the action immediately. It also warned the regime to stop the destruction of the Buddhist Viharas which are places of worship and education.

On April 13, about 150 Buddhist monks, holding placards and chanting religious verses, converged on the Burmese Embassy in New Delhi to protest against killings, arbitrary arrests and other atrocities committed on Buddhist Sanghas of Burma by the military government. Burmese diplomats declined to receive a delegation of protesting monks who wanted to submit a memorandum.

After the protest march, the monks offered prayers to the Lord Buddha at their congregation center in the memory of those Burmese monks slain by the army troops.

# Resolution adopted without a vote by the inter-parliamentary council at its 148th session

4 may, 1991

Having before it the case of the elected members of the Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Assembly) of the Union of Myanmar, which has been the subject of a study and report by the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians, in accordance with the "Procedure for the examination and treatment by the Inter-parliamentary Union of communication concerning violation of the human rights of parliamentarians",

Taking note of the Committee's report (CL/148/11(B)-R.1), which contains a detailed outline of the case,

Taking account of the information transmitted by the Permanent Representative of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, on 19 April 1991,

1. Thanks the authorities of Myanmar for the information they have provided;

2. Notes that the parliamentarians mentioned in the communications were elected to the Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Assembly) in the elections of 27 May 1990, which were recognized to have been free and fair by the authorities of Myanmar and whose results were officially proclaimed;

3. Notes that, twelve months later, that Assembly has still not been convened and that no date has yet been fixed for its convening;

4. Notes with concern that the authorities of Myanmar argue the

existence of an election verification process to justify the non-convening of the Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Assembly);

5. Expresses concern at the fact that the twelve months that have already elapsed since the elections have not sufficed to complete the electoral review process and enable the Assembly, which is the body representing the popular will, to meet;

6. Observes that failure to convene the Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Assembly) has the effect of preventing the elected members from discharging the mandates entrusted to them by their electors, who are thus deprived of representation;

7. Expresses grave concern at the fact that 62 elected members of the Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Assembly) have been imprisoned, some without charge or trial and others having received the sentence after summary trials;

8. Recalls that any person deprived of freedom through arrest or detention has the right to lodge and appeal before a court in order that it may rule promptly on the legality of such detention; that should specific charges be pending against arrested or detained persons based on concrete facts, such person should be formally charged and

tried within the shortest possible time, enjoying guarantees of a fair trial and that, failing the existence of charge they should be released forthwith;

9. Invites the authorities of Myanmar to convey to it any clarification on the situation of the elected members of the Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Assembly);

10. Considers the death in prison of a detainee must be followed by post-mortem examination establishing the cause of the death;

11. Notes with regret that an elected member of the Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Assembly) has died in prison and that no details have been received of the case of his death in response to enquiries by the committee, and request the authorities of Myanmar to inform whether a post-mortem examination and an inquest have been carried out and to convey their results;

12. Invites national groups to contact the authorities of the Union of Myanmar in support of this resolution and to inform the Committee on the Human Rights of the Parliamentarians of approaches and any results thereof;

13. Requests the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians to continue studying the case and report to it at its 149th session (October 1991).



## European Political Cooperation: Statement By The Twelve On Burma

Brussels, 27/5/91 (Agence Europe)

Within the framework of European Political Cooperation, the Twelve have adopted the following statement:

"A year ago, free elections enabled the Burmese people to demonstrate in the clearest fashion their wish to see established a democratic, multi-party system.

At that time the Community and its Member States, since then, through demarches and statements, made clear on several occasions their concern at the prolonged absence of a positive response from the Burmese authorities and at their continuing refusal to accept the requests made by the elected representatives of

that country for the initiation of a democratic process. The Community and its Member States have condemned the numerous shortcomings in respect of internationally accepted rules of conduct and of human rights, the continuing harassment, detention and house arrest of opposition members, and the refusal to free political prisoners.

The Community and its Member States take this opportunity to reiterate their appeal to the military government to bring about a democratic solution to the present situation in Burma and one which would respect the mandate given by the people on 27 May 1990. They confirm their readiness to re-establish constructive relations, including a resumption of their programmes of development assistance, with a Burma at last democratic and respectful of human rights".

## MEP In Favour Of Economic Sanctions Against Burma

27 May 1991

The Chairman of the European Parliament human rights sub-committee, British Labour MP Keith Coates, today urged EC leaders to impose economic sanctions on Burma to ensure power is handed over to the MPs elected a year ago.

He said, "Burma's State Law and Order Restoration Council has intensified repression and systematically violated the human rights of the people.....Most of the people elected a year ago today have been imprisoned or placed under house arrest."

Noting that political pressure has up to now had hardly any effect, Mr Coates felt that the time had come, "to consider more direct and punitive measures". Thus he advocates direct economic sanctions and also "measures to impede trade with Burma via its other trading partners," he said.

"Attention must be paid to the supply of weapons and other means of repression to the Burmese authorities as well as to exports from Burma which involve the continued destruction of Burma's forests and natural resources"

"These measures should be lifted only after all political prisoners are released and the SLORC hands over power to the legitimately elected representatives of the Burmese people."



## The role of farmers and peasants in the people's revolution

From the beginning of the insurrection of the Burmese people, many farmers from the rural areas marched to the towns. Some came on bullock carts and some on foot. Their enthusiasm was amazing; shouting slogans like "Getting democracy is our aim, our desire!", "Down with the one-party dictatorship!" and "Success to our revolution!".

In fact, the life of farmers and peasants has been a difficult struggle under the BSPP (now SLORC, the State Law and Order Restoration Council). At first, the BSPP exploited the farmers for political gain, then the poor farmers were put through forced labour in an attempt to revive the country's disastrous economy which resulted from BSPP mismanagement. There has been no significant improvement in the lives of the farmers for the last 26 years. The only change has been a huge increase in debt. Under the heavy burden of such a large debt, the only option open to them for a brighter future was to revolt.

So, when the whole country started to rise up, farmers didn't hesitate, they took part directly by joining in the demonstrations, and indirectly by donating food supplies to the revolutionaries.

So far as they were concerned to attain democracy they had to hit

back and revolt! One can only die once! The revolution must be successful! Whenever they thought of how the dirty swine Ne Win had swindled and cheated them, the

and rely on those acting on the behalf of the people? Soon enough, though, the self-declared spokesman for the peasants showed his true colours by not practicing what

### The hardest blow came when the BSPP robbed the whole country

farmers became ever more determined. So, they joined the other revolutionary forces and the nationwide revolutionary movement forged a new unity among people from all walks of life.

This movement was not the result of one small problem. It arose as result of 26 years of misruling by

the Burma Socialist Programme Party's (BSPP) aristocracy and their ruthless regime which denied the people their human rights. In 1962, when they first came to power, Ne Win proclaimed that the BSPP were the government

he preached. In fact, his policies wrought havoc in the fields and farmers were ill-treated in all sorts of ways. Yet, these poor farmers were the people who the BSPP had named as the foundation of the nation. The hardest blow came when the BSPP robbed the whole country by demonetizing the banknotes. The farmers were at the receiving end when all the money they had managed to save was now worth nothing.

The farmers were farmers no matter who reigned in government. They should have been able by right to sell freely whatever they cultivated. However, the worst was yet to come. The BSPP placed a restriction on the farmers, obliging them to sell a certain amount of produce per acre directly to the government. Inevitably the price of the produce sold to the government was fixed well below market prices. For example, if the market price was 20 kyats per basket, the BSPP fixed price was 9 kyats per basket. Out of this 9 kyats would also come labour and transport charges, thereby reducing the net income to 7 kyats per basket. After labouring all year in the mud the farmers only dependable source of

representing the farmers, peasants and workers and that they would not tolerate any cut throats or blood-suckers. Trusting the sincerity of those words, farmers looked forward to a brighter future. People were encouraged, believing that "this crane sounds so nice that its egg should not be sour". Who would not look-up to

**The order came in  
the middle  
of  
the rainy season**

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# MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR DEMOCRACY

## ARRESTED JAILED WITH SENTENCES WHERE AVAILABLE

The following is a list of 32 elected members of Parliament, belonging to the NLD, who were arrested and jailed on April 4 and 30, 1991.

Name	Constituency
Dr. Soe Lin	(Mandalay SW-1)
U Tin Aung Thaung (a)	U Tin Aung Aung (Mandalay NW-1)
U Zaw Myint Aung	(Amarapura)

All of the above person were sentenced to 20 years imprisonment.

U Ba Bwa	(Amarapura 2)
Daw Khin San Hlaing	(Wetlet 2)
U Khin Maung Thein	(Khin-U 2)
Daw San San Win	(Ahlone)
U Thaung Myint	(Khin-U)
U Hla Htun	(Kemmindine)
Daw San San	(Seikkan)
U Kyaw Thwin	(Kayan 1)

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Income was effectively cut off by the BSPP. If that isn't blood-sucking, what is? At a time when the prices of other basic consumer goods were going through the roof, it was impossible for farmers to make ends meet. In the end, the families of farmers could no longer afford even to clothe themselves decently.

When three years ago, just like teaching your grandmother to suck eggs, the BSPP ordered the farmers to replant the paddy fields according to their so-called "scientific" method. The order came in the middle of the rainy season, when transplanting had already been completed. Nevertheless, not daring to argue, the farmers replanted the required number of seedlings in a straight row in a cer-

12.U Tha Saing	(Twante 1)
13.U Hla Than	(Coco Island)
14.U Saw Hlaing	(Indaw)
15.U Myint Kyi	(Katha)
16.Dr. Myint Naing	(Kantbalu)
17. U Thein Htun	(Myaing 1)
18.U Ye Htut	(Daik-U 1)
19.U Aung Than Myint	(Thegon 2)
20.Daw Ohn Kyi	(Myitha 1)
( She is pregnant )	
21.U Chit Tin	(Minhla)
22.U Tun Aung	(Yedashe 1)
23.U Mya Win	(Ingapu 1)

All of the above members were accused of " High Treason " arising out of a conspiracy to " form a parallel government ".

The following nine members of the NLD elected members were convicted under section 124 of the NLD for withholding information

relating to high treason, and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

24.U Khin Maung Shwe	( S a n c h a u n g )
25.U Naing Naing	(Pazundaung)
26.U Kyaw Win	(Bassein W-2)
27.U Chan Aye	(Moulmein 2)
28.U Sein Hla Aung	(Insein 2)
29.U Soe Thein (a)	Maung Wuntha (Waw 2)
30.Ex: Col Myo Aung	(Tavoy 2)
31.U Tin Htut	(Einme 1)
32.U Win Hlaing	(Tatkon 2)

The ten years sentences of U Kyi Maung, Acting Chairman of NLD and U Chit Khaing, Acting Secretary of NLD were increased to 20 years each.

tain area of land, as ordered. The resulting harvest had a yield per acre one third less than that of previous years. Consequently, the farmers could not even meet the obligatory quota dictated by the BSPP. The farmers were forced to buy produce at higher rates from cultivators in other areas and districts because the BSPP threatened to take over the lands and farms if the quota was not met. The farmers wanted to be able to sell their produce without any unfair restriction. Traders were offering twenty to twenty five kyats per baskets, but they dared not sell. One farmer from Tan-Hlwe-Chaung district was imprisoned for eight years without being tried for selling to outside dealers. After that, the township BSPP officer issued an order that any one daring to commit such action would be put to death!

Having suffered under such oppression and injustice, the farmers could no longer stand aside with folded arms, doing nothing, when the whole nation started to revolt. The farmers, therefore, joined forces with various other protesting groups, and a solid resolution was made to fight until the complete success of People's Revolution was achieved!!!

**Ywet Kyan**

### Release

**All Political Prisoners  
Including U Tin Oo And  
Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.**

# Precarious Future Of Burmese Forests

In world politics at the present time, the cold war has started to move back as issues of human rights, environment and third world development are being pushed forward. In spite of this, in a Southeast Asian country called Burma, these developments have been ignored by "the power at the barrel of the gun".

Burma, with its 261,228 square miles, is rich in natural resources.

Most Burmese observers know that the military junta has done this to earn badly needed foreign exchange, with no consideration given to long term environmental consequences. The foreign exchange is needed to obtain more weapons to continue the oppression of the people and to fight the pro-democracy movement. In spite of the slogan to "eradicate all ethnic minorities", used by successive military dictatorships, the ethnic

determination and equality. Today, in addition to the sale of logging concessions to Thai companies, discussions are underway for further concessions to be sold on the Burmese borders with China, Bangladesh and India. If this continues Burma will be reduced to desertification in a few years' time.

In 1988 the deforestation in Thailand caused massive flooding in the south of the country, resulting in 3,000 deaths and US\$ 120 million worth of damage. This fate is in store for Burma if present policies continue.

According to Norman Myers, a British environmentalist, the rate of deforestation in Burma is producing 83 million tonnes of carbon dioxide per year into the atmosphere, 6% of the world total. Brazil produces 450 million tonnes of carbon dioxide per year from an area of 50,000 sq km. 1988 environmental records showed Burma with the ninth worst deforestation rate in the world, after Brazil, Indonesia, Columbia, Ivory Coast and Thailand. According to 1989



57 % of the country is covered by forest, which is the beauty of Burma. Teak, which grows in these forests, is the best-known in the world. The military junta that lost in the elections in May 1990 has consistently abused the environment. 14.82% of the forested area is officially reserved for the state for logging concessions. Over 42% of the forested area is officially untouched but in actual fact has been sold cheaply as concessions to Thai logging companies. Likewise, the junta has sold vast areas of water as concessions to Thai fishing companies.

minorities have successfully resisted the attempts and to this day continue their struggle for self-

satellite photographs Burma has now the third worst deforestation

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## STATEMENT OF THE ALL BURMA STUDENTS' DEMOCRATIC FRONT ON THE ENDEAVOUR BY THE MILITARY CLIQUE TO REOPEN THE UNIVERSITIES

1. The military clique, wishing to hang onto power, closed down all the universities and schools in an unjust manner, and arrested, tortured and killed the students who participated eagerly in the 1988 pro-democracy uprising that tried to bring down the military rule.

Therefore, some students who were left with no other alternative, were forced to take up arms against the military clique in the liberated areas. Some students were arrested and tortured in jails, and some students had to hide to escape arrest and torture-- their peaceful academic environments were shattered and their careers ruined. The military is wholly responsible for this.

2. The students are convinced that the affairs of the people are the affairs of the students, and if the people are suffering, how can the students carry on with their studies peacefully. In other words, if political problems associated with education are not solved, it is impossible for a peaceful academic life to exist. Only a government that can achieve internal peace, change the economy for the better, and give full democratic rights to its people can create a peaceful academic environment.

3. Besides, it is essential to change the whole education system, where the students are given the right to choose freely the subjects they wish to study, and the right to form student unions. In their preparation for reopening the universities, the military clique ignored the rights of the students, and coerced the students, teachers and parents to sign agreements that are restrictive and binding in nature. Under such circumstances, the students will not be happy in their studies, and it will not be possible to produce graduates that a country can depend upon.

4. Thus, it is clear that the reopening of the universities without solving the political problems and giving due

rights to the students, is merely a propaganda exercise by the military clique to show the world that they can govern the country, and restore peace and order. It is not because they wish the students to continue their education. It is just a political ploy, for their benefit.

5. The students in Burma who are given the opportunity to continue their studies would never be able to do so with peace of mind, as they can never forget their fellow students who died during the 1988 pro-democracy movement, students who gave their lives while fighting the military regime, and the students who are still continuing on the fight for democracy, human rights, internal peace, and a true federated state.

6. Only when the military dictatorship, its bureaucratic machinery, and the military clique is dismantled and crushed, can the people of the country become free. Freedom of a part is not possible without freedom of the whole. When the whole people are freed, the country, the ethnic groups, and the economy will have a chance to develop to a contemporary status, and a democratic education system can only then be established. Until such a system of education, in a politically free environment, is achieved, the students will not be able to carry on with their studies properly.

Therefore, all the students in the country who are given this opportunity to continue their studies, are urged to make use of their class-rooms and campuses as meeting grounds, from where they can work hand in hand with the people and continue their relentless struggle for democracy.

Central Committee

All Burma Students' Democratic Front

6, May, 1991.

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rate. Records in "The Free" show that since logging concessions were sold to 20 Thai logging companies the rate of deforestation has increased by 800%. If the greed of the Burmese military junta, the Thai logging companies and world-wide

consumers continues, Burma will inevitably suffer the same disaster as Thailand did in 1988. The environment cannot sustain this greed. It is not only the environment but also the people that will suffer the consequence. So long as the Western world provides the

outlet for the logs the Burmese military dictatorship will continue to oppress the people, the environment will continue to be destroyed, and the whole world will have to pay the price.

Maung Doe

# ANTI-MILITARY DICTATORSHIP NATIONAL SOLIDARITY

## COMMITTEE (Liberated Zone) Burma

### Position Statement No (1)

After deliberation on the outrageous activities of Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique, internal and external situations from all angles, the Anti-Military Dictatorship National Solidarity Committee (ADNSC), composed of the NLD and DAB representatives, issued the statement of its positions as follows:

(1) Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique, by misusing the Burma Army, which has the duty to protect the sovereignty, the life and property of the people, has seized state power by force, for its self-interest. Before the seizure of power, it had cold-bloodedly slaughtered more than ten thousand people, including students and Buddhist monks, on a country wide scale, who were staging peaceful demonstrations. After the seizure of power, it again slaughtered, inhumanly, more than two thousand students, Buddhist monks and civilians.

Not satisfied with this, it continues to bully and oppress the entire people by imposing an arbitrary and tyrannical rule. Ignoring the repeated requests and demands by the people inside and outside of the country, including the UN Secretary-General, Perez de Cuellar, the military clique continues to keep the NLD General Secretary, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, under house arrest. Not less than ten thousand opposition members, including the chairman, U Tin Oo, the NLD leaders at various levels,

leaders of various democratic organizations, student leaders and Buddhist monks are being unjustly imprisoned and brutally tortured. By various means, it has tortured to death, in Insein Central Jail, leader of the NLD Central Workers' Organization, U Maung Ko, Rangoon Division NLD leader and elected representative, U Tin Maung Win, leader of Peoples' Volunteer Organization, Bo Set Yaung and student leader, Ko Sein Win. It is known that many cases of death from torture in jails are kept under tight cover.

(2) Moreover, Ne Win-Saw Maung junta made a complete about-turn on its promise to hand over power to the winning party in the much vaunted "most free and fair election" of May 1990, which was held under its supervision, and return to the barracks. Then, under various pretexts, it made another round of arrests of the NLD central leaders and representatives, leaders of several democratic organizations, students and youth leaders and Buddhist monks. On the second anniversary of the 1988 movement for democracy, two Buddhist monks and two students were brutally shot to death in Mandalay City, the ancient capital of Burma.

In early November, 1990, Professor Mrs. Ogata, who was sent by the UN Human Rights Commission to investigate the worsening situation of human rights violations in Burma, was quartered in a house under heavy guards, as if she were under house arrest. Her move-

ments were severely restricted. Thus, Professor Mrs. Ogata herself lost her human rights during her week-long stay in Burma.

By increased suppression, the NLD, which had won a landslide victory in the elections, was made inactive. By manipulating the Election Commission, it removed Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and U Tin Oo from position of the leadership of the NLD.

We, the ADNSC, strongly protest and denounce such outrageous acts of Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique. Moreover, we seriously warn the military clique to immediately cease the commission of such outrageous acts any further and the failure to heed our warning shall lead to severe punishment by the entire people.

(3) Due to unlimited issue of paper money, the Burmese currency has become much inflated and its value has been made worth a little more than waste paper. While the country was reeling under economic woes, Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique took steps in February 1990, to set up a monopolistic business concern which was to have an investment capital of ten billion kyat. When the accumulation of capital was not sufficient, it shamelessly took 4 billions kyat, by force, from the State Treasury. On the other hand, the natural resources of the country such as

petroleum, timber, fishes, minerals and etc. have been sold to foreign firms at cut-rate prices, as if they were the clique's properties.

While the people are in the depths of economic hardships, Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique has been spending all the foreign exchange on the purchase of different kinds of war weapons and relentlessly endeavouring to wage on the war of annihilation against the forces for democracy and the armed organizations of the ethnic nationalities.

(4) During the period starting from January to March 1991, the clique's military troops perpetrated fearful crimes of atrocities in Palaung ethnic people's areas. Twenty one villages, consisting of 2342 houses, and 12 Buddhist monasteries, were burnt down. Seventeen monks, including 6 abbots, were arrested and beaten up. 194 people were tortured and killed. Twenty one women, including 6 nuns and seven school teachers, were raped by the troops. Nineteen of the women died from the injuries, and the remaining two have to be hospitalized.

These atrocities have forced over 100,000 villagers flee for their lives and take refuge in deep jungle. The value of jeweleries, cash and valuables looted by the clique's troops amounted to more than 50 million kyat, at the current rates. The value of house burnt down amounted to more than 16.8 million kyat and the total value of other properties lost amounted to more than 22.3 million kyat. As a result, the overall value of the material losses suffered by the Palaung people

amounted to about 90 million kyat. It is obvious that by use of such tactics of terror and atrocities against the Palaung people, Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique has forced Palaung State Liberation Party to surrender. However, such tactics shall never lead to a lasting peace in the country.

In some areas of Kachin State, many villages were burnt down by Burma Army troops in a military operation known as "Ye Pet Sit Hsin Yay" (Operation Draining Out Water). The villagers were forced to live in certain areas designated by the army, where they were mistreated. In Shan State, Karen State and Mon State also, villagers were seized for forced portage at the front, looted, mistreated, killed and etc. by the Burma Army troops. Due to these atrocities, thousands of refugees have fled into the neighbouring country.

At the time of March 1991, there were refugees from Burma in Thailand numbering 47,453 of which 33,916 were Karen, 10,374 were Mon and 3,163 were Karenni. In this way, Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique has continued to commit heinous crimes against the ethnic nationalities further aggravating the situation of civil war.

(5) Political leaders and elected representatives are forced to answer in a manner pleasing to SLORC, a list of questions numbering 301. Government servants and army personnel are forced to answer a list of questions numbering 33. The SLORC has, once again, openly violated human rights by forcing this disgraceful exercise upon the people.

We, the ADNASC, would like to earnestly request the UN and democratic countries of the World to take effective action against the irrational activities of the SLORC and help restore the human rights which have been lost by the people of Burma.

(6) On behalf of the entire people of Burma, we call upon the countries which are selling arms or giving military assistance to the SLORC, to immediately cease their sales or assistance, as their actions are tantamount to adding more fuel to the fire of civil war or prolonging the evil existence of the military clique, SLORC. We also earnestly urge the UN to intervene and settle the matter.

(7) Due to the irrationality and atrocities of Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique, Burma is in the worst situation in terms of democracy and human rights. We, the ADNASC, ardently urge the UN to make utmost effort and take effective measures to help the entire people of Burma regain their national, democratic and human rights.

(8) In conclusion, we, the ADNASC, affirm that we will stand firmly and struggle on for national and democratic rights and the cessation of civil war and the establishment of a federal union of states, until victory is achieved.

May 22, 1991

**Anti-Military Dictatorship National Solidarity Committee.**



# HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

## SLORC Atrocities From Kachin State

1. On 4 April, 1991, a unit of Burma Army Regiment-51 led by Lieutenant Htay Win tortured and killed 2 male Kachin villagers from Kathan Yang village, Kamaing Township, on Myitkyina-Hpakant Road.

The two victims, namely, Zinghkang La Bawk (age 56) and Hpau Gun Nawng (age 61), encountered the soldiers on their way home from slashing of their dry paddy cultivation. The victims were beaten first, and then had their legs cut off. Afterwards, the poor farmers were tied upside down from a tree and their hearts and livers were disembowelled while they were still alive.

2. On 11 May, 1991, soldiers from the Regiment-236 of the SLORC Army killed 3 male Kachin villagers from Mai Kung village, near Bhamo town, the second largest city in Kachin State.

3. On 13, May, the same unit from the Regiment-236 killed 4 more

male Kachin villagers from Wa Htang village, near Bhamo town.

4. On the same day, a military column from the Regiment-47 robbed and killed 6 Kachin villagers from Zing Lum, a small town in Bhamo District.

(Note: The incidents and lists of victims including looted properties belonging to the villagers is not yet known.)

5. On 17 May, 1991, another unit from the same Regiment (name of the commander unknown) killed the undermentioned innocent Kachin and Shan villagers from Mai Kung village, near Bhamo town. Some of the victims were guests from a village nearby and were slain without any interrogation. They were:

1. Labang Aw (Age-51) Mai Kung village
2. Labang Naw (Age-43)
3. Nau yam (Age-41)
4. Lau Gnan (Age-35)
5. Name unknown (Age-45) Ethnic Shan

## Students Concern Over Two Returnees

Students from Minthamee Camp are concerned about two students who went back to their town at the requests of their fathers last month amidst the spreading of news that the students were executed on their arrival at the town. Threatened by the army, the parents attempted to persuade their sons and daughters in the camp to return home with promises that they would be safe once they return to so-called legal fold. This was the first approach of the parents from Palaw, a small town in the southern part of Burma.

The camp is one of the 15 camps under the banner of the All Burma Students' Democratic Front which has been fighting the military junta since 1988 bloody crackdown on the demonstrators. SLORC collected and assembled all parents whose children are in the jungle for armed struggle and directed them to bring back their children from the jungle in any way. The parents,





brothers and sisters of these students were deprived of their benefits and properties in society, education, and business. However, now these communities are being intimidated worse than ever by SLORC. SLORC gave a deadline after ordering the parents to bring back their children. If the parents could not bring back their children before the deadline, the parents would be arrested under SLORC's merciless law.

On 25.5.91, two fathers of the two students arrived at the frontier to bring back their sons:

**Name - Aunt Kyaw Soe**

**Age - 21 years**

**Qualification - 10th Standard**

**Father's name - U Kyaw Hla**

**Address - No-2 Quarter, Bogyoke Rd, Palaw town Tenasserim Division**

**Name - Ye Naing**

**Age - 19 years**

**Qualification - 8th standard**

**Father's name - U Sit Pwa**

**Address - No-2 Quarter, Bazaar Rd, Palaw town Tenasserim Division**

On 26.5.91, the fathers and sons went back to Palaw township. It is clear that if the fathers had not succeeded in persuading their sons they would have been arrested by

the SLORC. The fate of two students cannot be imagined.

## Forced Labour Of Political Prisoners

**Date - 24 November, 1990**

**Time - 19:00 hours**

**Location - Loikaw Town, Kayah State**

According to sources in Loikaw, a military convoy of 12 trucks loaded with 300 prison inmates from Insein prison, Rangoon arrived in Loikaw, escorted by the soldiers from Light Infantry Regiment 214, under the command of 11th Brigade. The convoy was escorted back and front by armed guards and the soldiers were under orders to shoot anybody attempting to escape, they said.

The eyewitnesses said they saw young men in prison uniforms who were unlikely to be common criminals but rather students, teachers, party workers and civil servants who had been taken into custody for their political opinions before they were sent to Loikaw Prison.

According to the sources, the prisoners had only one or two

months left to serve of their prison terms, others with just 3 or 4 more days left, and because the military regime did not want to release them, they were forcibly sent to the military operational zones to be used as human mine sweepers or to carry military supplies for the soldiers.

A private from Regiment 72 of Lawpita who requested anonymity said those 300 political prisoners would be used as human mine detectors in the front line or as labourers in the road work or timber industries. The prisoners would be unlikely to be provided with blankets and medicines and would receive little food. The military authorities believed and feared that the prisoners would create unrest once they were released so it was necessary to send them out to the frontier area.

## A SLORC soldier defected to ABSDF

Hla Aung Thein ( BC- 673440 ) from the company 3 of the Light Infantry Regiment 92 under the HQs of the Southwestern Command defected to the Eagle Camp of the All Burma Students' Democratic Front on the Bangladesh border in April. The Regiment is deployed in the town of Padaung in Rakhine State of western Burma.



## Thai Authorities Repatriate the Illegal Burmese

About 4,000 illegal Burmese immigrants, were leaving the border town of Maesot towards Burma as Thai authorities backed by police and military personnel, cracked down on an estimated 20,000 aliens working without permits, a local army commander said. At least 50 shacks abandoned by the illegal immigrants were demolished by armoured personal carriers to prevent them from returning.

## Thailand Accused Of Forcible Repatriation Of Burmese

**The Bangkok Post - 1 May, 1991**

A reliable source, who demanded anonymity, said 140 Burmese were taken from Bangkok's immigration jail last Friday, 27th April, and bused 470 kilometers to the southwestern town of Ranong, separated from the Burmese port of Kawthaung by a narrow estuary.

Among them, he said, were 41 Burmese students entitled to protec-

tion by the United Nations High Commission, having received official refugee status.

## Burma Junta Eyes Soviet Helicopters

**The Bangkok Post - 4 May, 1991**

Burma's military junta may buy attack helicopters from the Soviet Union, official Rangoon Radio reported. The junta is negotiating the purchase of modern MI-17 helicopters, said a transcript of the report. Burma's official Working People's Daily newspaper said the Soviet side proposed the sale of the helicopters, and two types of airliner, on easy payment terms.

The MI-17 is capable of an antipersonnel or antitank role, according to The Military Balance, an annual published by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies.

The helicopter can carry rockets and other arms. It has a speed of 202 kms per hour and a combat radius of 90 kms (56 miles), it said.

The military regime has reportedly been bolstering its arsenal. Western diplomats say it recently agreed to purchase jet planes and large quan-

tities of other arms from China and elsewhere. Diplomats say they have seen newly-delivered Yugoslav jet planes flying training flights from Rangoon airport.

According to The Military Balance, Burma currently has no armed helicopters. It is estimated 32 US-supplied Bell helicopter were originally intended for drug eradication work, although the armed ethnic groups say they have been used in military operations against them. The radio report said the Burmese and Soviet sides discussed replacing Burma Airways' aging Fokker Friendship airliners with Soviet Antonov 32s. Talks were also held on the possible purchase of another Soviet airliner, the Tupolev 154, it said.

## Burmese Stray Shells Wound Thai Villagers

**The Bangkok Post - 3 May, 1991**

Two Thais -- a girl and a boy were seriously injured when several rounds of stray mortar shells, fired by Burmese troops, landed on a Thai border village. Thai authorities in the Mae Sot-based Thai-Burma Border Committee sub-

mitted an official letter to their Burmese counterparts in Myawaddy township asking them to take responsibility for the damage.

## Burmese Students Set Up Schools, Clinics At Border

**The Bangkok Post - 7 May, 1991**

The All Burma Students' Democratic Front, an organization of pro-democracy students said several educational institutes and small medical clinics have been established near the Thai-Burma border and in "liberated zone" deep inside Burma to win popular support and teach democracy. The organization can not establish democracy until military dictators ruling the country are toppled, said Dr. Thaung Htun, a spokesman for the Front. The rural health care programmes instituted by the ABSDF are going well, he said.

## EGAT Plans To Build 10 New Dams

**The Nation - 3 May, 1991**

Private consultants and foreign funding agencies are conducting feasibility studies for more than ten new hydro-electric power dams throughout

Thailand and along the Burmese border, said Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) officials this week.

The Upper and Lower Salween projects with a potential generating capacity of between 4,000 and 7,000 megawatts, and three projects along the Moei River with a potential generating capacity of about 500 megawatts, are still in their initial stages, said an official of the Hydro-Engineering Division.

## **Burmese Camp Plan Scrapped**

**The Nation - 9 May, 1991**

The Interior Ministry of Thailand has abandoned its plan to set up a holding centre for Burmese Asylum-seekers in the western border province of Ratshaburi, leaving them in limbo, a relief worker said. The relief worker who demanded anonymity, said that the ministry had scrapped the Bt3 million project to transform a deserted border patrol police camp in Pak Thor district into a holding centre.

Niwat Wajjaphume, director of the Interior Ministry's Information and Foreign Affairs Division, would not confirm or deny the reported change. The ministry has asked the UNHCR to cease the renewal of refugee certificates cards

to Burmese--technically making all Burmese Asylum-seekers illegal immigrants. It has also planned to issued identification cards to more than 2,000 Burmese dissidents believed to be living in Bangkok and border provinces in Thailand. The majority of the Burmese fled to Thailand following the Rangoon military crack-down on the pro-democracy movement in late 1988.

## **Two More Burma MPs Die**

Official Rangoon Radio announced that U Saing Kyaw Sein died on 19th of April. U Saing Kyaw Sein was a member of the Shan National League for Democracy (SNLD) which contested under the banner of the National League for Democracy. He was also an elected Member of Parliament from Keng Tung constituency in eastern Burma's Shan State, near the Thai-Burma border. The radio report did not say how or where the MP died.

The State Election Commission had taken his name off the list of MPs elected in the general election held on May 27 last year.

No explanation was given by the Commission for the three-week delay in announcing the death.

U Saing Kyaw Sein is the third opposition

politician to have died this year.

U Si Maung, a member and elected MP of the National League for Democracy from the Lay Myet Hnar constituency (1) in the Delta region, died of malaria while hiding on the Western Yoma Mountain Ranges last month, announced Radio Rangoon.

Having been accused of participating in the discussion to form a provisional government in the liberated area, U Si Maung was declared absconder on the 4th of December by the State Law and Order Restoration Council.

The announcement of his death was made on 16th of May after the death was confirmed by his colleagues. He was the fourth MP to have died this year.

## **Two NLD MPs Declared Disqualified**

**Working People's Daily - 30 April, 1991**

The State Election Commission declared two MPs disqualified and dropped from the list of MPs elected in the May 1990 elections. U Hla Oo, an elected representative of Kyaik Ta Ga constituency (1), and U Myint Maung, representative of Eaima constituency (2), were accused of breaking Ar-

ticle 11(G) of the Election Law. The electoral court announced their verdict after the MP's seditious attempts to form or take part in the provisional government.

The announcement, No-921 of the State Election Commission, disqualified them from the status of elected MPs.

## **Burmese Taking AIDS Back Home With Them**

**The Nation - 7 May, 1991**

Burmese fishermen and prostitutes working in Thailand are spreading Aids when they return to their country, PM's Office Minister Mechai Viravaidya said. He called for early talks with health officials from Burma to discuss the spread of the HIV virus which produces the AIDS. To emphasize his concern for the problems, he cited the rescue last month, from a Chiang Rai brothel, of 19 teenage girls from Burma's Shan State. None of the girls had any knowledge of the disease but 17 were found to be infected with HIV virus.

## **First Sino-Burma Trade Fair Opened**

**The Nation - 28 May, 1991**

The first joint Sino-Burma trade emporium opened at the Mu-Se Hotel in Mu-Se, a northern Burmese town bor-



dering China. More than 500 Burmese products from 11 state-owned and 10 private firms, and goods from 63 Chinese firms were displayed.

## **Junta Appeals To Daw Suu Kyi To Leave Burma**

**Bangkok Post - 11 May, 1991**

Burma's military junta has made a public appeal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest in Rangoon for almost two years, to leave the country and rejoin her family in England. The unexpected plea came from Major-General Khin Nyunt, head of Military Intelligence, on 7 May, less than a month after sources in Bangkok revealed that he had sent a Buddhist monk to try and strike a deal with Daw Suu Kyi to leave Burma. According to the sources, Daw Suu Kyi agreed to leave but set certain conditions, including the release of hundreds of political prisoners and the transfer of power to a civilian government, which she knew the military would never accept. One Bangkok-based observer described the pressure being put on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, whose nationwide popularity remains untouched, to leave the country as an ongoing psychological battle between her and the junta.

## **3 Million Baht Sought To Help Keep Burmese**

**Bangkok Post - 11 May 1991**

The Thai Interior Ministry will seek three million baht from the Cabinet to spend on repairing a holding camp to be used to hold Burmese students who have entered the country illegally.

The camp, an old Border Patrol Police base in Pak Tho District, will be able to hold 1,180 students.

The ministry will also ask the cabinet to issue a special ID card for each student to allow them to stay in Thailand but will not allow them to work.

## **Rangoon Reopens All Colleges And Universities**

**Bangkok Post - 16 May, 1991**

Burmese students went back to school after a three-year break yesterday when the military government reopened all colleges and universities closed since the pro-democracy uprising was violently crushed in 1988, diplomat said.

The ruling junta also issued a stern warning to the students and teachers that it would crack down hard on any hint of campus unrest. Troops slaughtered thousands of civilians

and students, who were at the forefront of the 1988 uprising, in crushing the unrest and the army, which seized power in a coup amid the turmoil, shut down all schools, universities and colleges.

The junta's General Myo Nyunt told an assembly of parents, students and teachers at Rangoon University on Monday that it was their duty to ensure there was no unrest.

He said, "We have evidence that political parties intend to exploit the situation once the universities are open. We will not tolerate any attempt to test our strength."

One diplomat said, "The military has pretty well flattened any opposition. The students who are going back will want to study."

## **Border Campaign 'Won't Affect Asylum Seekers'**

**Bangkok Post - 29 May, 1991**

Thai military authorities say the ongoing campaign to clear Mae Sot of Burmese illegal immigrants will not affect those who have been granted political asylum. Third Army Task Force 34 Deputy Commander Col Vichai Arthit said only illegal immigrants caught working will be handed to Burmese

authorities if they are arrested, adding those of ethnic minorities opposed to the regime will be returned through safe border passes. Students, asylum seekers and border villagers arrested will not be handed over but instead be sent to camps on the border. The officers said the campaign to repatriate the immigrants will not affect those who entered Thailand before 1976, but will target the 15,000 or so who have entered the country since then.

## **Junta's Economic Policies Stall Development**

**Bangkok Post - 20 May, 1991**

Burma's military government is driving an ad hoc economy that is squandering natural resources and preventing the country from developing, Rangoon-based observers said.

Since seizing power in a bloody coup to crush the mass movement for democracy in September 1988, the junta has been selling off the country's natural resources to bring in badly needed foreign exchange. According to a government report, this policy pushed up exports by 27 per cent to 3.5 billion kyat (around US\$583 million at current artificial exchange rates) in the 1990-91 fiscal year.

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# Birds Released In Osaka To Mark Burmese Anniversary

By Casey Riverpoint

*Mainichi Newspaper (Japan)*

Osaka--On Sunday, May 26, exactly one year after Burmese elections, more than twenty people gathered in Nakanoshima Park to protest the junta's refusal to hand over power. The international picnic-rally was organized by Burmese Relief Centre--Japanese (BRC-J), and sponsored by the Association For Burmese Issues in Kansai (ABIK) and Amnesty International (AI).

Participants dressed in traditional Burmese Longyi and Kamaungs (peasant hats). One couple wore complete Karen (Burmese hilltribe) outfits. There were also a variety of T-shirts with slogans from All Burma Students' Democratic Front, National League for Democracy, and International Network for Democracy in Burma. Many covered their faces with masks of Aung San Suu Kyi, NLD General Secretary, to protest themselves from recognition by Burmese Military Intelligence spies.

Those attending came from as far away as Nagoya and Kobe. At least six nationalities were represented, including an entire Burmese family, who dared not reveal their identity.

The picnic area near the beautiful Nakanoshima Rose Garden, was decorated with colourful placards in Burmese, Japanese, French, Turkish, and English. In various languages, the placards demanded that the Burmese government honor the elections, transfer power to elected representatives, and release political prisoners, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held



Pigeons freed in Nakanoshima Park at an international picnic calling for democracy and the release of political prisoners in Burma.

under house arrest for almost two years. One sign declared, "Life is no picnic in Burma!" Another, bearing a huge red stop sign, urged, "Stop Human Rights abuses in Burma!"

As the members gathered, loudspeaker blared democracy songs which were popular in Burma during the 1988 demonstrations, but which are now outlawed. The official program opened with the reading of a statement sent by the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma, formed last December in Manerplaw by representatives elected last May. S. Tanaka, chairman of ABIK, read the Japanese translation of a letter simultaneously being submitted to the Embassy in Tokyo by the Burmese Association in Japan. The representative from Amnesty, P. Hitchfield, reviewed the recently completed campaign for Burma, and stressed the need for continued action on behalf of the thousands of political prisoners there. Special guest, M. Terai, who was Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's Japanese language teacher in

Tokyo, shared a few personal reminiscences of her famous student.

The highlight of the program was a ceremony called "Luparsay" in Burmese. Gathered around heavy bamboo cages of pigeons, the participants, some holding pigeons in their hands, solemnly chanted, "Luparsay! Luparsay! Luparsay!" As those birds were freed and the cages opened, the fifty released pigeons flew up into the sky, carrying with them the prayers that political prisoners in Burma will regain their freedom soon.

K. Kawasaki, representative of BRC-J and co-organizer of this event, stressed that support for Burmese democracy remained high in the Osaka area and throughout Western Japan. He added that there is already a campaign planned to honor the birthday of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on June 19. Mr. Kawasaki urges people throughout the world to join in sending cards and letters to

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# INTERVIEW WITH DEFECTED SOLDIERS



**Name - Ye Naung BC - 72845**  
**Fathers name - U Ngwe Thein**  
**Mother's name - Daw Than Mya**  
**Position - Private of the Regiment (28)**  
**Age - 18 years**  
**Home - Moulmein city, Mon State**

I joined the army in 1989. Before I joined the army, I took part in the demonstrations in 1988. While our group was giving speech to the people in the compound

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However, with imports more than doubling to 7.18 billion kyat the trade deficit climbed to 3.7 billion kyats. A two-year-old investment law, despite lack of proof that profits can be repatriated, brought in some 7.9 billion kyat (around \$1.3 billion) in an increase of 53 per cent over the previous fiscal year, said the report.

of Kyaik Thoak Pagoda in Moulmein, the soldiers intervened and shot the crowd at random. 47 people were killed on the spot. The army and the police started to track down the activists who took part in the demonstrations after it takeover on the 18th of September. Since then I had been hiding so as not to be taken into custody.

Then I decided to join the army so as not to get arrested for my involvement in the demonstrations. I attended the military training in the 28 Regiment for 6 months. As soon as the training was over, I was sent to the front line of the Regiment 28. At the front line, Sergeant Aung Naing who was my commander or-

dered us to conscript the people as porters. I was shocked at their brutal torture and felt very upset. The relation between the soldiers and the commanding officers has been a serious matter. Whenever a problem comes up, the soldiers are the ones who are to blame or punish. We had been treated very unfairly. For this reason, I decided to defect to the Resistant group to fight back the cruel Burmese military regime on 16.1.91.

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**Name - Thant Zin Oo BC - 672410**  
**Position - Private of the Light Infantry Regiment (2)**  
**Father's name - U Khin Maung Win**

victory, and a military move to imprison the leaders of the NLD. But, as analysts in Bangkok noted, Western countries take in only eight per cent of Burma's exports.

With friendly neighbours like China, India, Thailand and Singapore, Rangoon can afford to wait as long as the natural resources last.

**Mother's name - Daw Nyunt Kyin**  
**Age - 23 Years**  
**Home Address - No 1 Quarter, Ngwa Htoo Gyi township, Mandalay Division**

After many quarrels with my parents I joined the army like many youths in



Burma do today. I attended the military training in the Light Infantry Regiment 71 for 6 months. Then I was transferred to the Light Infantry Regiment 2 of Than Pyu Za Yat (the Death Railway).

On the 8.8.88 during the uprising, we soldiers from Company 5 of the Light Infantry Regiment 2 were deployed in the Daw Pone township in Rangoon. The then commander of our troops was Major Myint Than. We were the troops who massacred the crowd in front of the Thaketa Movie Theatre in the Thaketa township which is next to ours. We did not want to

shoot the crowd but if we didn't, the major would kick from behind or file a case for not obeying the order. I myself did not want to kill the innocent people who were demonstrating peacefully but I had to. I felt that we soldiers were unjustly forced to do the things that we did not wish. In the same way, when I was the assistant of Captain Kyaw Khaing I lost all my freedom as I had to care for his privates affairs all the time. He was inhuman in dealing with his subordinates. Because I have seen with my own eyes that the officers treated the soldiers very unfairly--the commanders and the high-ranking officials in the army oppress and bully the soldiers and the innocent civilians--I defected to the Revolutionary area to overthrow the brutal military regime.

**Name - Kyaw Khiang.**  
**BC - 614839**  
**Position - Advanced Radio Operator of the Signals Regiment**  
**Father's name - U Myat Htun**  
**Mother's name - Daw Ni Tin**  
**Age - 24 years**  
**Home Address - Enn Taing, Hie Ge township, Rangoon Division**

I would like to tell you about my experience since joining the army in 1984. In 1987 I was transferred from the 515 Signal Regiment to military column 2 of Regiment 28. We were stationed at Pyne Kyone camp. On the evening I arrived at the camp I saw about 50 women being taken as porters. In the group there were old women, students and a teacher. I just minded my business and did not care what they were doing. About 15 of the women were rounded up from a church at Visitors Heights village while they were attending a service. I was shocked to see that the soldiers didn't provide shelter for the women, who had to sleep on the ground outside. I was then hor-

rified to hear a women being raped by soldiers from the Artillery Unit in a room adjacent to my radio operations room. In my anger I decided to inform the commander of the regiment. On arriving at his room I found the commander himself raping a woman.

The next morning I saw 7 young women talking on a bench. I asked them if they knew what had happened the previous night. They informed me that as well as the two women that I knew were raped, a further 4 women received the same treatment. They said that the raped women were so afraid of the soldiers that they couldn't scream out. They also told me that many women had been raped before and when any of them complained to the officers, they were told action would be taken against the of-



fenders. No such action was ever taken. The officers also told the women not to inform anyone else of the rapes. It is not surprising that women no longer tried to complain to the officers because even when soldiers like myself complained, no action was ever taken.

In the SLORC army, there has always been a serious problem between the Privates and Commanding Officers. Whenever a complaint is raised by a Private, no matter how justified, he will always be the loser. The soldiers

don't bother complaining any more.

On that day, we had an order to send urgent supplies to Military Post 928, at least a day walk away. I saw the women looking with dismay at the heavy supplies they were to carry. Because of the urgency, the women were force marched for the whole journey. On the way one woman could not carry her load any further so I tried to help by taking some from her. The other soldiers jeered me, saying that I was sex mad. We had to stay at point 928 overnight and again several women were raped. I found the behaviour of the soldiers brutal and utterly inhuman. Rape turned out to be very common around that area.

The army Officers were ruthless in their treatment of villagers and exploited them in any way they can. As a radio operator I heard everything that was going on. For example, if there was a requirement for 50 porters, the Officers would conscript 100 porters and inform their superiors that 100 were needed. They did this because the costs of 18 kyats per day were provided for provisions for every porter. The Officers then pocketed most of the money, including that needed for the required 50 porters. The porters could be conscripted for a month which means Officers could get at least 60,000 kyat. That was just one way they exploited the people. Sometimes one person per household was conscripted, and the place I was based was surrounded by 50 villages, which meant that one time 500 porters were conscripted even though the requirement was 50. The excess 450 were released upon payment of a fee. I am sure that when Officers are based at such posts for a number of months they extort millions of kyat. This method has been practised throughout the country since

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## Further News Concerning The Taung Pauk Village Cremation Ceremony

After random shootings and lootings at the Taung Pauk village cremation ceremony (DAWN, March 1991), the soldiers from the Company 5 of the Light Infantry (62) under the command of Lt. Col Soe Win, went to Wahmingone village and looted the properties from the villagers. At the same time, soldiers from the Company 4 under Captain Maung Maung of the same infantry plundered Pawlawgone village near Wahmingone village and took away men from villages and the properties of the villagers.

On the same day, they went to Hlainggan village and stayed there for two days. During their sojourn in the village, they started to release the villagers they had rounded up upon payment of 3000 or 4000 kyats. Out of the 300 villagers they had conscripted, only the villagers who could afford the ransom were released. Then the soldiers went to the village monastery and took away valuable materials from the monastery while the monks were away. Besides this, they stayed overnight at Kyaikpone village, Htawelpauk village, Vedagyi village and Parrot village and robbed the villagers there as well.

On 5 and 6 of March, they raped many women at Phadalel village where Laos nationalities live while men from the village ran away for fear of being conscripted as porters.

On 7 of March, the same company was intervened by New Mon State Army and as a reprisal, the soldiers burnt down 11 houses at the Seik-kalay village which was the nearest village to the battle.

For this reason, the Light Infantry 62 was transferred to the Three Pagoda Pass border area by the SLORC officials as a punishment.

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the civil war started over 40 years ago. Saw Maung and Khin Nyunt also used such methods when they were Officers. The grassroots of the army know exactly what is going on but they dare not speak out.

My parents-in-law, who live in Visitors Heights village in the Pyne Kyone village track, hold a strong resentment towards the army. My father-in-law was a trader and one time on his way home two soldiers robbed him of 100,000 kyat. In the assault he was struck with a rifle

The 84 persons robbed of their properties valued about 355,100 Kyats (US\$ 53,803) from Warhmingone village, Hlainggan village, Pheldoevillage, Dayelkwin village, Modon town, Kyiakmaraw town, Thayagone village.

Note: The list of villagers who were robbed of their properties and chash were sent to the Human Rights groups including Amnesty International. We appreciate that if you write to us for this information.

**(Editorial Staff)**

butt and two ribs were broken. Now every time he breathes he is reminded of how he was treated. So when I married his daughter he strongly disapproved.

Only my mother-in-law was present at the wedding ceremony. To this day my parents-in-law must pay 3000 kyat a year to the army to avoid being conscripted. My mother-in-law had already once been conscripted, while she was 5 months pregnant, and she almost lost the child. Every family in that area suffered a similar fate.

Seeing all that was going on I decided to defect to the revolutionary groups to fight the Burmese army. When I arrived at the border I was surprised to find how kind-hearted the villagers were.

The successive military governments had convinced us all that the ethnic minorities were bad, violent people and that we would be killed by them if we were ever caught. I have decided to commit my life to bring down the military regime.

**DAWAUNG SAN SUU KYI**

**Nominated**

**Nobel Peace Award for 1991**



# Burmese Rural Population Under The Boots

The people of Burma live in fear, especially those in the rural areas. The out-of-the-way villages where the Army operations take place are always threatened by the military.

Military Intelligence and Maung Ni, the Acting Commander of Light Infantry Regiment 61, sent orders to the village SLORC headman of Kaw Hlaing and other village representatives in the Ye Township in the Tenasserim Division to attend a meeting on 23rd March 1991. Due to unavoidable circumstances the village headman of Kaw Hlaing failed to show up at the meeting. Two days later, on 25th March, the MIS personnel of the Regiment sent him a threatening letter. The following is a translation of that letter:

1. Why did you fail to show up at the meeting on 23rd March as ordered?

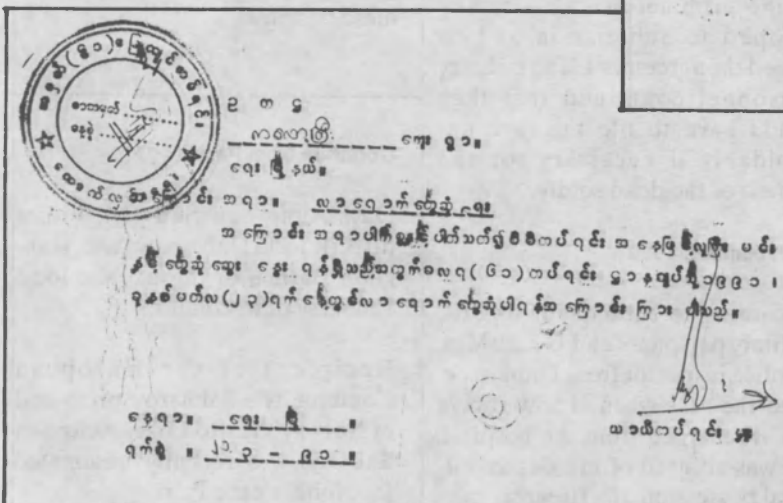
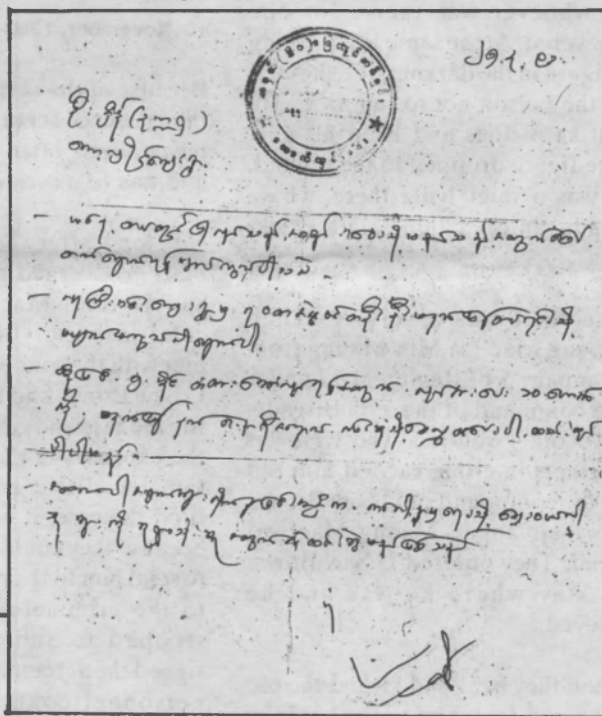
2. A SLORC member of your village must come to the headquarters tomorrow without fail.

3. In addition, 10 volunteers from your village must be sent, with food supplies, for the construction of the 5-mile bridge, to arrive tomorrow morning at 8 a.m.

4. If the above orders are not obeyed, any people from your village who go shopping in Ye will be conscripted as porters for military operations in Three Pagodas Pass. This example indicates how the army treats the troubled people in the rural areas.

The military has ruled the

country at gun point since 1962. While they continue the war against the ethnic minorities, the innocent people continue to be oppressed. Having been under the ruthless law of the army for almost half a century, the people in the rural areas have had to suffer long enough and are reaching the end of their tether. Dealing with these people on a daily basis, the ABSDF understands their way of life and attempts to solve their problems whenever possible. There is no doubt that the only way this misery will end is the by the end of military dictatorship in our country, and the end will come.



## **SLORC Tortures 78-Year Old Man**

**Name** - U Saw Braw Zu (a) U Saw Brown

**Age** - 87 years

**NRC No** - ISN- 423478

**Date** - 3 November, 1990

**Time** - 21:30 Hours

**Location** - Nant Fae Khone Village, Dimawsoe Township, Kayah State

It was about 9:30 on a Saturday night when U Saw Brown, a war veteran, heard his dog barking from under the house. He got hold of his hand-made gun and shouted to whoever was there. No one answered. At the same time, seeing a figure in the darkness, he shouted to the person not to run away. He felt suspicious and fired his gun. The figure dropped to the ground. It was a thief lying there, whose hands clutched three slain chickens.

The thief was a soldier called Maung Mae (a) Min Maung from Company 5 of Regiment 12 under the command of the 55th Brigade. Two other soldiers who were his partners-in-crime carried him out of the compound of U Saw Brown. To their anger, Maung Mae was dead. They ordered U Saw Brown to stay where he was and he obeyed.

Then they beat and kicked the old man and took him to the house of U Shay Lel, and continued torturing him until the bruising and injuries sustained over his entire body caused him to pass out. Two daughters of U Saw Brown--Ma Sa Wa Di (36-years), who had a mental disorder, and Ma Kyi Htay (32-years)--were stabbed in their faces and sustained injuries. Seeing her father being violated, the situation of Ma Sa Wa Di got much worse. The soldiers returned to U Saw

Brown's house and ransacked it, kicking his grandchildren and destroying objects, including a sewing machine. Then they took U Saw Brown to their HQ in the Shan quarter.

They tied U Saw Brown's hands at his back and neck and left him outside the shelter in the rain for the night.

**4 November, 1990**

U Saw Brown was taken to the township police station the following day together with the chickens.

**13 November, 1990**

Because of the severe injuries sustained in the torture, he had to be hospitalized after a X-ray check and was in a serious condition.

Not long after the incident took place, concerned military officers and U Khin Maung Win, police chief inspector of the township, met with the sons and daughters of U Saw Brown and told them not to file the case and gave 1000 kyats for the expenses in the hospital. They threatened that even if his family filed the case, it would be useless because they could order the judge to send him to the prison according to the criminal acts. His family stooped to submission and so signed the agreement. The military personnel continued that they would have to file the case unavoidably if necessary for the benefit of the dead soldier.

**7 December, 1990**

According to subsequent reports, military personnel and U Zaw Min, a police inspector from Dimawsoe, filed the case when U Saw Brown was discharged from the hospital. He was accused of murder and illegal possession of a firearm.

The board of judges of the Kayah State announced that the case would be heard on 19th of December, 1990.

## **ACTIVITIES ON ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF GENERAL ELECTION**

**27 May, 1991**

On this one year anniversary of the first multi-party elections for 30 years, pro-demonstrators protested in front of the Burmese Embassies in England, United States of America, Japan, Germany, Australia, Taiwan, France, the Netherlands and Canada.

They call for the release of political prisoners, including U Tin Oo and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the transfer of power to the election members of Parliament of the May elections and the cessation of civil war, and they condemned the military junta for its gross human rights abuses. Overseas organizations involved were Committee for the Restoration of Democracy in Burma, International Network for Democracy in Burma, Committee for Democracy in Burma, and several other solidarity groups supporting the struggle of the Burmese people.

**Continue from Page (17)**

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, either directly to 56 University Ave., Rangoon Burma, or through the local Embassy of Myanmar.

Recipient of the European Community's Sakharov prize and of Norway's Rafto Prize. Aung San Suu Kyi was recently nominated for Nobel Peace Prize.

# 'PRINCE OF EVIL' TIGHTENS HIS GRIP ON BURMA

AFP's Erskine McCullough profiles Khin Nyunt, the reportedly sadistic and effeminate Intelligence Chief

May 27, 1991

*The Nation, Bangkok*



As reports of torture, brutality and harassment against opponents of the military junta continue to filter out of Burma, one man remains firmly in control of the campaign of fear -- Major General Khin Nyunt.

According to diplomats, observers and western intelligence sources, the 52-year-old head of military intelligence has become the most feared man in Burma.

"Even his friends are scared of him. No one feels safe from him," one long-time Burma observer said recently.

Branded by critics as the "Prince of Evil" because of the climate of terror with which he has blanketed the country, he is credited with turning torture into an art form in the scores of interrogation centers under his command.

"Torture is much more sophisticated in the country now. It has also

become routine," Bangkok-based author and journalist Bertil Lintner insists.

"He is despised, even by his fellow officers, but everyone is afraid of his power," Lintner added.

It is a view shared by many independent Burma watchers.

"Put simply, Khin Nyunt is a very wicked man and probably sadistic," explained one Rangoon resident who has met the intelligence chief several times.

Ridiculed by his opponents for what they describe as his effeminate walk, an opinion supported by westerners who have met him, the bespectacled Khin Nyunt was handpicked to be the country's chief spymaster by the country's former military strongman Ne Win.

Although Ne Win formally gave up all his state and party posts nearly three years ago, few people doubt that he still pulls the strings from his heavily protected compound in the outskirts of Rangoon.

"While Ne Win is still alive Khin Nyunt is safe. His enemies inside the junta would not dare try anything against him," one Rangoon-based observer said.

Described as being ruthless and ambitious, the long-time staff officer, a point that rankles with those who have served in the

frontline, has begun to strengthen his power base by putting former classmates in top positions throughout the country.

According to western intelligence files, Khin Nyunt went straight into the army after leaving Rangoon University at the age of 18, but it is not clear whether he opted out or managed to graduate.

From then on, he rose steadily through the officer ranks until in the early 1970s, already an intelligence officer for almost 10 years, he was handpicked by Ne Win. From then on he became a protected man.

In December 1983, Khin Nyunt became head of military intelligence and immediately began putting together a spy network that even his critics admit is proof of his capabilities.

"There is no doubt he is an intelligent, articulate and a quick thinker. Certainly more than anyone else in SLORC (an acronym for the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council) and certainly much brighter than the official head of SLORC, Saw Maung," one intelligence source said.

Khin Nyunt is still believed to live with his wife and children in the compound of Ne Win, a well protected strip of land jutting into Inya Lake. The houses, all English style, are a reminder of the days when Burma was a British colony.

Foreign residents in Rangoon have reported Khin Nyunt switching his

interests increasingly towards foreign affairs despite the fact that his knowledge of the outside world is considered strictly limited. His only known trips abroad have been to China and Thailand.

"He seems quite happy now showing a high profile and he is clearly highly ambitious. There is no doubt he is the man to watch," one resident said.

Rumours abound about Khin Nyunt's sexual habits but few people who have come in contact with him give such stories any credence.

In April last year, Burmese satirist Zargana did a skit on stage dressed as a woman, which according to members of the audience was clearly intended to be Khin Nyunt.

Shortly afterwards Zargana was picked up and later jailed for at least five years for being a threat to the state.

Khin Nyunt is also believed to be linked to Burma's multimillion dollar illegal heroin business and several drug sources are convinced that he plays a major role in one of the country's biggest exports.

According to intelligence sources, Khin Nyunt is a millionaire many times over with properties in Bangkok and Singapore -- all suspected of being paid for with drug money.

"Nothing goes on in Burma without his knowledge, or approval. On the one hand he puts on a public front of battling the drug trade but at the same time people closely as-

sociated with him are deeply involved in it. Although there is not any hard evidence, it is stretching things too far to believe he is clean," one drug source involved in fighting the Burmese connection said.

Said to have a very controlled temper, Khin Nyunt is tipped to at some stage take over control of Burma.

"If not soon, certainly sometime in the future he will be in charge. His fellow junta members know that if their power is to be preserved they need him. Frankly he is indispensable to them," one Rangoon resident forecast.

"Khin Nyunt will be around for sometime to come," he added.



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