

B. U. R. M. A.

BURMA RIGHTS MOVEMENT FOR ACTION

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Free Daw Aung San Suu Kyi And All Political Prisoners

Two years ago, the military regime placed Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and U Tin Oo under house arrest. At first the junta announced that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi would be detained for six months and later extended to another six months. It will be two years within a few days, but Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is still under house arrest.

Meanwhile, the SLORC condemned U Tin Oo to three years' imprisonment. This sentence was added by ten more years. Most of the top leaders and thousands of political workers of the NLD and other opposition parties were arrested, tortured and convicted.

In spite of all these ruthless measures, the NLD won the May 27 elections with landslide victory. Out of 485 constituencies, the NLD won in 396, and its allies, the Union Nationalities' League for Democracy, won over 60. The National Unity Party, the new name of the BSPP, although backed by the junta, got only 10 seats.

Instead of handing over power to the victorious NLD, the junta continued its suppressions more ruthlessly. U Maung Ko and U Tin



Maung Win, the prominent NLD leaders, were arrested and tortured to death. More opposition activists were being arrested everyday.

These measures will never be able to wipe out the will of the people but only help to harden their resolve. Also the sympathy and support of the international communities towards the downtrodden people of Burma is increasing. The popularity of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is rising higher and higher. Recently the European Community awarded her

the Sakharov Prize followed by Norway which has awarded her its Rafto Human Rights Prize. Czechoslovakia's President Vaclav Havel has nominated her for the Nobel Peace Prize.

The objective realities have proved that the tide is against the SLORC. Hence, the SLORC has no alternative.

Free Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners soon.

Hand over power to the legitimate representatives.

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CIVIL WAR

A DARING ATTACK

At midnight of March 24, a commando detachment of ABSDF No.206 Students' Battalion stealthily entered and attacked Dai Wun Kwin police station which is in the heart of Moulmein, the largest city of Mon State.

Four policemen, including an officer, were killed and 6 others were wounded. The students hoisted their Fighting Peacock Flag and retreated without any casualties. In the night of March 26, the same detachment attacked another police station of Babu Kon, situated on the northern outskirts of Moulmein. After that the students returned to their base safely. (For further report see 'Taking avenge on an innocent'.)

THE JUNTA'S TROOPS PUNISHED

On 18-6-91, a column of the SLORC's troops intruded the liberated area in Kyon Doe

Township of the Karen State. The column composed of soldiers from No.2 Chin Rifle Battalion, No.230 Light Infantry Regiment and No.231 Infantry Regiment, and was about 400 strong. About 150 fighters of the New Mon Liberation Army encountered with the enemy near Kawkyaik village at about 05:30. Within a short time forces of DAB column No.8, comprising the Karen National Liberation Army and ABSDF's students, joined to reinforce the Mons. From the junta's side a Navy launch and two Commando Units came in to assist their troops. The battle took about 10 hours and ended at 16:00.

The enemy lost 38 dead and 64 injured while 6 revolutionary fighters sacrificed their lives for democracy.

THE JUNTA'S TROOPS IN RETREAT

Since the junta's plan to overrun and occupy the KNU and DAB controlled areas during the dry season

failed, the junta launched several new attacks against the KNU held areas. But the KNU and ABSDF army repulsed every attack and intercepted every movement of the junta's troops. Now the SLORC's troops lost all the occupied positions in Pa-pon Township, including much boasted Point 2709 and Point 2336.

On June 2, No.20 Battalion of KNLA and No.210 Battalion of ABSDF intercepted a column of the junta's No.317 Infantry Regiment. The ensuing battle lasted 45 minutes and the junta's troops suffered 4 dead and 5 injured. The site of the fighting was in Takolaw Hills in Pa-pon Township.

On June 6, the KNU and ABSDF army clashed with another column of the same regiment in Po-le Taw Hills. The junta's troops suffered 2 dead and 3 injured. In another clash the same day, the junta's No.317 Infantry Regiment suffered 3 dead and 4 injured.

The next day, June 7, the KNU and ABSDF army attacked a column of the Junta's No.59 Infantry Regiment near Khu-do village, in Pa-pon Township. The junta's troops suffered 2 dead and 15 injured, and had to retreat in disarray.

Repatriation

Name	Tarra
Father's Name	U Win Htein
Race	Karen
Occupation	Manual labour of Sprite Industry in Mae Sod.
Date of arrest	1-6-91
Time of arrest	Morning
Place repatriated	Myawaddy
Received by	Army, police and immigration officers of Myawaddy.
How treated	The town's people of Myawaddy collected food stuff from among themselves and gave to the repatriates.
Others captured	He saw Karen, Burman and Muslims men and women.
How escaped	On 2-6-91, after giving 500 Bahts to Burmese officers, he was allowed to return.

SLORC extended their dirty hands beyond the border

The junta in Rangoon is not only suppressing the Burmese citizens, their atrocities ventured beyond the Thai-Burma border. A Thai fisherman named Orn Khunpraset, 43, who was recently released from Insein prison, said the SLORC of Burma secretly sent some Thai speaking Burmese fishermen to Thailand. He said the SLORC officials smuggled them into Thailand with duties to spy on the works of the Thai fishermen. He added they came into Thailand by disguising as Thai fishermen. He said there are about 200 Thai fishermen in Insein prison. He added, "they are starving. Main meals normally are boiled soybeans and potatoes. Fish comes only once a week." He said 3 of Thai inmates at Insein prison has died of starvation.

POLITICS

The four tasks accomplished, Why not step down?

The declaration No.1/88 of the SLORC, 18-9-88, reads ;

"The Tatmadaw (army) has, assumed the responsibilities of the state organs to implement the following immediate measures:

(a) Maintenance of Law and Order; prevailing peace and tranquility in the country.

(b) Providing secure and smooth transportation.
(c) Will strive for the better conditions of food, clothing and shelter of the people and render necessary assistance to the private sector and the cooperatives to do so.

(d) To hold the multi-party democracy general elections when the above measures are completed."

During the press conference No.10, November 4, 1988, the spokesman of the Information Committee of the SLORC said that, "the Tatmadaw (Army) would hold the multi-party general elections without fail as promised, as soon as the first three tasks have been accomplished."

[SLORC's Press Conference, Book 1, page 62]

From the above two references one can clearly see that multi-party general elections is the last of the FOUR TASKS the SLORC promised to accomplish and that the elections will be held only after the first three tasks have ac-

complished. Hence, it is clear that SLORC has done all the FOUR TASKS successfully. Now let us see what Saw Maung had said about the transfer of power.

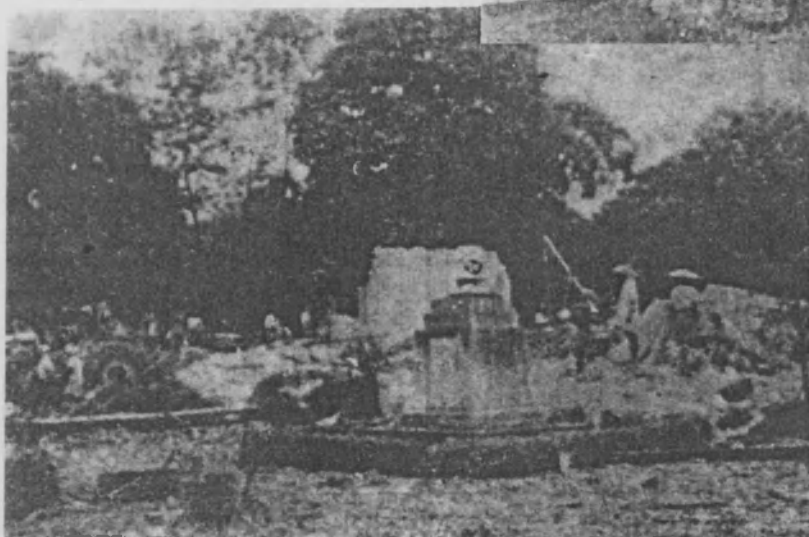
"As the period for which we assume responsibility is a short one, we can provide only limited attention to such matters as health, education and other social activities. Long-term improvements in health, education and other social activities are to be carried out by the government which comes to power after the multi-party democracy general elections.

[Gen. Saw Maung's First Speech as Chairman of SLORC, 23-9-88]

Thus, it is evident that Saw Maung has plainly declared to the nation that he would transfer power to the elected party. Then what circumstances has forced Saw Maung to break his promise?

The beginning of the end

At about 17:30 in the evening of July 7, 1962, Ne Win ordered his army to shoot into the crowd of students who were staging peaceful demonstration to protest the repressive measures of the military regime. Over 100 students were killed and several hundreds wounded. The next morning, July 8, Ne Win ordered the army to demolish the Rangoon University Students' Union building.



Thus, the RUSU building, one of the most valuable landmarks in Burma's history, was completely destroyed. The reason given was that the building was occupied by the unruly students. In reality all the students in the building were killed or wounded and captured by the military about 12 hours ago. The RUSU building and the whole university campus had already been occupied and thoroughly searched by the army throughout the night.

Turned to rubbles

HUMAN RIGHTS

Burma Junta Is Illegitimate Under International And National Law

The International Human Rights Law Group has released a report in which it condemned the Burmese military for its unconstitutional seizure of power and its failure to transfer power to the representatives of the National People's Assembly elected in May 27, 1990.

Referring the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other sources of Law, the report concluded that the

People's Assembly - not the military government - holds the claim to legitimacy as the Government of Burma.

Under the National Constitution in effect when the junta came to power the declaration of emergency and martial law orders must be approved by the People's Assembly. Hence the SLORC lacks authority under the National Law of Burma.

The Law Group urged an immediate, unconditional transfer of

power to the elected representatives and also appealed to the national governments to suspend trade relation and end cooperation with the junta.

The junta's legal system flouts all international standards

New York based Lawyers Committee for Human Rights has criticised the SLORC for its human rights abuses in flagrant disregard for the fundamental principles of the rule of law.

The Lawyers Committee urges that the SLORC should, at a minimum, take the following action:

1. End the practice of trying civilians before military tribunal.
2. Release all civilians convicted by military tribunals or, if they are charged with legally cognizable offense, re-try them in civilian courts whose procedure comply with international trial standards, such as those found covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
3. Establish an independent judiciary, free of interference by the executive branch of government and military.
4. Adopt and implement measures to stop the practice of torture of persons in detention.
5. Undertake independent and impartial investigation of report of torture, disappearances and extrajudicial executions and prosecute those persons responsible.
6. Immediately release all persons being detained for peacefully exercising their rights of expression, assembly and association.

Brutality of the junta

On Feb 2, the 4th Company of the junta's No.231 Regiment led by Lt.Khin Maung Ngwe came into An Pha Lay, a Karen village, in Kawkaeik Township of Karen State. The soldiers rounded up the house of U Maung Ni, a Karen Buddhist, and took him away. When they arrived at their camp after travelling for some days in the jungle, the soldiers began to torture U Maung Ni. They accused him of being an insurgent and beat him. They covered his face with a towel and throw water on it. The soldiers punched and kicked him several times, stabbed him with bayonets, and also burnt him with lighted candles. One day at about 11:30, the soldiers sliced both of his ears with a knife. Only when his wounds healed the junta's troops let him go home on March 31.



U Maung Ni, Both ear severed

HUMAN RIGHTS

Human Rights Violation By The SLORC's Troops

Hmyin Wa Kon is a Mon village situated in Kya-inn Seikkyi Township of the Karen State. The village people of Hmyin Wa Kon decided to commemorate the cremation ceremony of the deceased venerable Sayadaw U Nya-na Ranthi.

According to the regulations of the SLORC, the village elders had to go first to the town LORC of Seikkyi Township and then to the divisional LORC in Pa-an, the capital of the Karen State. After paying all the prescribed fees the villagers obtained the official permissions and documents. The cremation ceremony was held on February 25, 26 and 27.

In the early morning of February 27, a military column of No.62 Infantry Regiment led by the regiment commander Lt-Col. Soe Win rounded up the ceremony and fired into the crowd of the villagers. A

monk, a novice, 5 villagers, and a 5-month-old child were injured. As the villagers ran for their lives, an old man and a child were tramped to death. And then the soldiers entered the houses of Hmyin Wa Kon village and another village named Pawlaw Kon and robbed off the valuable.

On the same day, the same column proceeded to another Mon village named Hlaing Gani and captured about 300 villagers. They were released only after their families paid at least 500 Kyats for each hostage. Some of the female hostages were raped by the soldiers. Then the column returned to Kya-inn Seikkyi to take rest.

On March 5-6, the column moved again and entered into Phar Dale village inhabited by Lao minorities. Since the male villagers,

afraid of being captured to serve as porters, ran away and hid in the bushes, the soldiers took away about a score of the females and raped.

On March 7, the 4th Company of the same regiment led by Lt. Maung Maung entered Seik Kalay village and set it on fire. Eleven houses were burnt down.

THE SLORC'S SOLDIERS COMMITTED ROBBERY

At about 7 a.m. in the morning of February 27, 1991, a 150-strong military column of No.62 Infantry Regiment from Mudon came to Moe Wa village in Kyon Doe Township of the Karen State. The drunken soldiers entered the house of Daw Nyein Ngwe, 49, and got away with a half tickel of gold, 2015 Kyats, clothes and other utensils from the kitchen.



Daw Nyein Ngwe, robbed by the junta troops.

....."we want the world to know that we are prisoners in our own country."

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi
(19.7.89)

ECONOMIC ISSUES

The junta enjoys the privilege of LDC

Since 1988, when the junta cruelly crushed a nationwide uprising for democracy, all the donor countries stopped their aid.

As a least developed country, the junta is entitled to receive debt-relief grant. Last week Japan has agreed to a US\$ 21.7 million debt-relief grant for the SLORC. The grant can be used for commodity im-

Dec. 1988, a sum totalling about US\$ 83 million. The cancellation is in line with French policy regarding least developed countries.

Alian Briottet, French ambassador to Burma, said that France would not extend new loans to Rangoon following suspension of French aid after the 1988 military takeover in Rangoon.

France and other donor countries cut off their aid programs to Burma after the SLORC seized power in a bloody coup.

Since then the SLORC began to sell timber, fish and other natural resources at unbelievably low prices.

The SLORC's conduct tantamount to selling the future of a nation. And the money they earned from the transactions were not used for "the basic needs of the country" as Saw Maung had told Asiaweek but were used to buy military hardware from abroad.

From China alone the SLORC has ordered US\$ 1 billion worth of military hardware.



ports. This means that Japan will give back what the junta had paid. This is the third debt-relief grant extended by Japan to Burma.

The first debt-relief grant of US\$ 26.5 million was extended in June, 1988 and the second was US\$ 25.3 million in July, 1990.

France cancels SLORC's debt

On June 24, France told the junta that it has decided to cancel all debts incurred by Burma prior to

The junta sells the future of the nation

Gen. Saw Maung after taking power on September 18, 1988, gave his first interview on January 17, 1989. During that interview Asiaweek correspondents asked: "The Japanese recently cut off aid. The US and West Germany have also done so. What is your reaction?" Saw Maung answered: "...It's no problem. We have timber and other natural resources that we can export and sell to fulfill the basic needs of the country."

The SLORC can't control the price

The commodity prices are now rising sky high. The SLORC's guns are useless in trying to control the price.

Recently Khin Nyunt, SLORC's secretary (1), summoned a meeting of the merchants and trade officials. In his speech to the meeting, Khin Nyunt said that the SLORC has issued a number of Laws, Procedures, Rules and Regulation Orders, Instructions etc. in order to fulfill their economic policy. Although the SLORC has done so, the prices are not stable. It is soaring up beyond the reach of the common people. Why?

Then he put all the blame on the private sector and trade officials. A few days after the meeting, the rate of increase of the prices became worse. The following is some of the current market price shown against the price before the meeting.

#Fish....from 140 to 200 Kyat/Viss
#Poke....from 100 to 140 Kyat/Viss
#Chicken....from 110 to 150 Kyat/Viss
#Rice....from 16 to 20 Kyat/Pyi.

The military arrested its own officials

A number ward administrative officials of Myawaddy, opposite Mae Sot, were arrested by their boss Maj. Kyaw Myint, the township LORC chairman. The victims were U Nyunt Thaung and U Kyaw Ngwe, the chairman and the secretary of No.3 Ward, U Aung Maung and U Phone, the chairman and the secretary of No.5 Ward and ward committee members U Kyaw Myint and U Sein. They committed no crime but they have had an argument with Maj. Kyaw Myint when the Major ordered the two's flocks to do heavy work in constructing road from dawn to dark and extorted money from those who

wanted to be exempted from sending as porters.

Continued from **The daring attack**

Taking avenge on an innocent

The army arrived at Dai Wun Kwin police station half an hour after the attack. They vainly searched every neighbouring house. The next day, March 25, the members of the Military Intelligence No.5 came and arrested Ko Soe Htay, 31, an or-

ganizer of the NLD, and his father U Shwe Ko who was a ward chairman of the LORC, the military administrative committee. Then Ko Soe Htay was severely and continuously tortured, and died on April 13. His father is still detained.

It is learnt that during the last year's elections campaign, there was a feud between Ko Soe Htay and members of MI No.5 when he prohibited the MIs from taking snap shots of the NLD activists at work.

The leaders of the ABSDF 206 Battalion had already declared that Ko Soe Htay had no relations with their battalion.

Discontentment growing in the military

"We want democracy. We do not want to arrest and torture our own brothers and sisters. We do not want to shoot innocent children any more. We want peace. We want to stop the civil war. That is why, we the majority of the people in military service voted for the opposition party NLD."

These are the words told by a soldier of the SLORC, who defected to the revolutionary forces last month. He has been a private in the Burma Infantry Regiment No.22.

He continued; "The discontentment is growing in the army. Many are now beginning to feel that they are being betrayed by the handful of military leaders, SLORC." He said, "When we voted, we believe that the NLD led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will surely win. We also hope that the SLORC will hand over power to the winners. We the majority of rank and file of the military, appreciate Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's leadership. We believe that she is the only leader who can accomplish national unity and lead the whole nation to a

prosperous state. But now the winners are jailed. At first we thought that the upper echelon of the military would one day change their ugly attitude and become reasonable. But they are giving us new orders how to cope with the students' unrest and how to suppress the political parties. So we are beginning to lose our hope."

As he said the discontentment is growing and it is gradually transforming into anger. How long will it take to reach a boiling point?

BARBARITY

On April 4, 1991, a unit of the junta's Army Infantry Regiment No.51 led by Lt. Htay Win tortured and killed 2 Kachin villagers from Kahtan Yang village, Kamaing Township, on Myitkyina-Hpakant road.

The two victims, Zinghkang La Baw, 56 and Hpau Gun Nawng, 61, both are farmers, were on their way home when they met the above mentioned army unit. The two were arrested by the soldiers and beaten, and then both of their legs were amputated. After that they were dangled on a tree and disembowelled, and their hearts and livers were extracted out of the living bodies.

On May 11, 1991, units from Army Infantry Regiment No.236 killed 3 male Kachin villagers from Mai Kung village, near Bhamo.

On May 13, 1991, units from Infantry Regiment No.236 killed 4 male Kachin villagers from Wa Htant village, near Bhamo.

On the same day, a unit from Infantry Regiment No.47 killed 6 Kachin citizens from Zing Lum, a small town, Bhamo District.

On May 17, 1991, a unit from Infantry Regiment No.47 came into Mai Kun village, near Bhamo, and killed 5 innocent Kachin villagers, including 2 visitors. The victims are

(1) Labang Awng, 51, Mai Kun village.

(2) Labang Naw, 43, Mai Kun village.

(3) Nau Yam, 41, Mai Kun village.

(4) Lau Ngan, 35, Wa Htant village.

(5) Name unknown, about 45, ethnic Shan.

On June 17, a column of about 100 soldiers of the SLORC's Army from Mugawng town, 30 miles southwest of Myitkyina, came to Shingbwi Yang village near Mugawng and killed 3 villagers. Many villagers fled and escaped; 6 villagers were still missing and their fate is unknown.

NATIONAL HEALTH CONFERENCE HELD AT MANERPLAW

A National Health Conference was held from June 5 to 7, 1991, at Manerplaw. The conference was attended by representatives of health committees from various ethnic organizations, and delegations of the organizations affiliated to the DAB.

Prime Minister Dr. Sein Win of the NCGUB delivered the opening speech. The conference discussed and adopted the policy and program of the NCGUB on health.

National Coalition Government Of The Union Of Burma On The Move

A delegation led by U Hla Pe, Minister of Information and Culture, and U Hla Oo, Minister of Labour, toured the Eastern Region of Burma during the last week of May.

The people of the region gave an arousing welcome. The ministers explained the policy of the NCGUB, the eminent victory of the struggle for democracy, and the hopeless future of the SLORC.

