



A NEWS ORGAN OF THE KAREN NATIONAL MOVEMENT (BURMA).



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Nai Non La, Vice President of New Mon State Party addressing at Mon National celebration.



Kaing Soe Ng.Ag.Secy. of NDF addressing at Mon National Day.

Letter from the Publisher

On November 5, 1987, Ne win military regime has openly claimed that they would smash the Karen revolution in two year's time. Such wild claims had been made many times in the past, and many will want to know how things stand today at the KNLA fronts.

To be able to attack the KNLA posts at the Moei river bank, the Rangoon military regime has to construct a road from Thin gany Maung to Tale close to Mae Tan, a distance of (50) miles for the transportation of their armaments and ration stores. Using the whole No. 44 Division for the road. The construction was started in mid-November, 1987, and although almost half a year has already passed, the road is far from being completed, and with the setting of the rain now, it is impossible to finish the road in 1988.

We publish in this issue Summary Report of KNLA military activities for a period of (3) months from 1-1-88 to 31-3-88 and also some important military achievements of KNLA troops for the same period.

Knowing of the enemy plan, the KNLA has dugged in at strategic positions on the road, and has literally wiped out all attacking enemies (see No. 6 military zone and No. 101 special Battalion Front). In the whole Kawthoolei area a total of (487) enemies were killed and (796) wounded, among those killed included (29) officers and (8) NCO's and among the wounded included (11) officers

and (24) NCOs (19) military trucks and (8) bridges were destroyed. In No. 7 Bde. area, (No. 6 military zone) and (101) Special Bn. area where the road is constructed a total of (200) enemy troops were being killed and over (600) being wounded from Mid-November 1987 to the end of March 1988.

The KNLA suffered a total of (26) killed and about (80) wounded in all the military zones for the (3) months period.

The morale of the enemy fighting troops are low. There were some desertions and some suicides through shooting themselves.

We also publish in this issue NDF Battle News, especially the KIA(Kachin), SSA (Shans), MNLA (Mons) and WNA (Wa) showing their successes over the enemy.

An added attraction in this issue is the publishing of a Broadcast article from CPB VOPB which rejects BSPP claim that KNU will be crushed in Two years.

Since the explosion of one Time-bomb at the Rangoon Railway Station, the BSPP military regime has to take a lot of precautions for their internal security and with the uprisings of Students in Rangoon, which now spills all over Burma, combined with its difficult political, economic and financial situations, the task for the BSPP regime have become very heavy, leave alone the task of crushing the KNU.

STATEMENT OF KNU STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE STUDENTS UPRISING.

Victory is for those who dare to fight

People of all nationals,

Using the army as his support, General Ne Win staged a coup d'etat and came to power on March 2, 1962. Under him the country is being dragged deeper and deeper into the civil war. The "Revolutionary Council" was made up of generals and colonels and they ruled the country by force. As a move to deceive the people, a so-called general election of the people was held in 1974 and the government of the Burmese Socialist Program Party was formed. This government is also made up of retired military generals and retired military colonels and so, in assense, power remains in the hands of military personnels made to retire and rule the country once more as civilians. Ne Win now rules the country no longer as a military general but as U Ne Win, an ordinary civilian.

It was been over 25 years now since this government came to power. During these years, the civil war had caused tens of thousands of homes to be devastated and tens of million of Kyat worth of properties and assets perished. Millions of people had either been killed, arrested and persecuted or imprisoned. Incessant military operations had caused civilians by the thousands to be forcefully conscripted by the Burmese every now and then to be porters and taken to the battle fields. They have been known to be required to act as human mine sweepers. Countless porters had died or suffered serious injury while in the battle fronts. Porters are ill fed but made to carry excessively heavy loads. Those who find it difficult to move on because of weakness and exhaustion are often physically abused. Sick porters do not get proper medical treatment. In some cases, some

very sick and dying porters were kicked into deep gorges or ravines whereas some were shot dead so as to leave no hint nor evidence for the rebels. A lot of the porters who return home safely suffer with physical debility or disease caused by the extreme hardships that they had been forced to go through.

The government had laid down a 20 year long term economic program but in implementing it, erroneous economic policies and ineptness on the part of technical personnels, supplemented by insufficient fund and inefficient mode of distribution had resulted in production falling far short of what had been anticipated. Annual import exceeds annual export and so every year the budget shows a deficit. The country's foreign debt has risen to US\$ 4200 millions. Interest paid annually on the debt amounts to 50% of the export value. The country experiences an acute shortage of fuel and many vehicles and factories now have to stop operating.

In 1963 the government demonetised the 50Kyat and 100 Kyat bank notes. In November 1985 it again declared as no longer legal tender, the 20Kyat, 50Kyat and 100 Kyat notes. In doing thus, the government had cooly robbed the people of billions of their hard earned savings and rendered them penniless within the wink of an eye.

In spite of all these, the Burmese government shamelessly approached the United Nations and appealed for the Least Developed Country status. It was granted in December 1987. Because of the erroneous administrative and economic policies of the Burmese Socialist Program Party government, Burma which had been famous for its rich and bountiful natural resouces is technically

reduced to the pitiful position of one of the world's poorest countries.

The BSPP government has intensified the civil war all over the country. On the other hand, on July 7, 1962, true to its despotic nature, it shot and killed more than a hundred university students during a student demonstration, wounded more than another one hundred students and arrested more than two hundred of them. In 1967 when the country was facing a shortage of rice, the government slyly fabricated the Sino-Burmese communal conflict in order to divert the attention of the people from real crisis. Hundred of Chinese nationals were killed and wounded, many Chinese women were raped and loss of properties belonging to the Chinese amounted to billions of Kyat. In that same year, in Akyab, Arakanese nationals asking for rice received bullets instead and more than forty died. In May 1974 during a demonstration of workers, the BSPP government employed weapons to break up the demonstration. Many workers were killed or wounded and their leaders were arrested. In December of that same year during the U Thant affair in which students, monks and civilians demonstrated against the BSPP government, the government retaliated by shooting the demonstrators. Countless number of demonstrators were either killed, arrested or persecuted. Their leaders were arrested and imprisoned. Under the despotic rule of the BSPP government, life for the people has become so full of hardships and miseries that, often times they risked their lives and strived to gain their rights and priviledges.

The country is now in a severe economic crisis. The government had chosen to solve political problems militarily and so the people are now miserable and poverty stricken. Life has become more and more unbearable and situation has become so tense that it finally exploded once more. Between

March 12 and March 18 of this year, students of Rangoon Institute of Technology staged anti-government demonstrations which enjoyed popular support and grew in intensity. There again, the government employed its crack military units to quell this movement of young, unarmed students. Incomplete reports put the students' death toll at 13 and more than 30 were reported to have been arrested. The movement quickly escalated and spread to other parts of the country.

In Pa-an, hundreds of students and people from various walks of life invaded the headquarters of the 22nd Light Infantry Division on March 18 and demonstrated with slogans calling for troops of the so-called People's Army to prove themselves friends of the people by siding with the people to overthrow the Ne Win government. On March 19, thousands of students, monks and people from various walks of life entered the headquarters of the 44th Light Infantry Division and the headquarters of the 97th Burma Regiment in Kaw Ka Reik and demanded that if the army really is a People's Army, it should join the people and rise in armed resistance against the Ne Win government which is ruthlessly killing the students and young people.

The Karen National Union sympathises with the students of the Rangoon Institute of Technology, the students, the monks and the people of Pa-an and Kaw Ka Reik and heartily supports their rightful demands. It urges everyone to strive on until totally victory is achieved. The Karen National Union stands ready to assist them in their struggle against this despotic military regime. There is no other alternative but the use of armed resistance in order to bring it down.

The Karen National Union is fighting not only for national liberation alone. It is also fighting for the liberation of all the oppressed nationals. Mutual understanding and closer

cooperation with the Karen National Union would strengthen the struggle and make it more effective. The Karen National Union welcomes the students, monks and people and is ready to join hands with them in their just

struggle. The time has come for people of all nationals and people from all walks of life to unite and fight to the end so as to be free once and for all from the yoke of oppression forced upon them by the BSPP government.

March 22, 1988
5th day of the waxing of Tagu, 1349

Central Standing Committee
KNU-Karen National Union



Journalists with NDF leaders at Mon National Day celebration.



Central KWO Touring Team on Carts Crossing the Hongtharaw Chaung.

THE POSITION OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT IN REGARD TO THE RECENT STUDENT UPRISING IN BURMA

Students and Comrades throughout the country: Fellow Citizens of all the different nationalities:

On March 12, 1988, a clash developed between the students of Rangoon Institute of Technology and a group led by the chairman of Kyo Kung People's Council. The clash soon led to local student demonstrations which soon spread to become a nationwide uprising spearheaded by other student demonstrations. The NDF supports the righteous and justified cause of the student uprising and wants to make its position known as follow:

The reason for the student uprising and demonstrations is due to the oppressive, chauvinistic military regime that is incapable of leading and administering the country. The regime has nationalized all free enterprises and ruled the country as a Fascist, chauvinistic, military dictatorship, and monopolized the state economy, leading to an poverty-stricken country. Burma used to be one of the richer and better-off countries, with abundant mineral resources, oil, rice, teak, and other valuable woods, but now has had to apply for Least Developed Country status, joining the ranks of the poorest countries of the world.

Because the Rangoon regime has led the country into a perennial state of civil war, the country has suffered incredible losses politically, militarily, and economically. The peoples of Burma have suffered at the hands of the so-called Burma Army, who are officially licensed bandits preying on the civilian populations, causing the loss of billions of kyats worth of homes and property, making extrajudicial arrests of the civilian population, and raping both young and old women. They forcefully conscript civilians as porters who are made to follow the Burma Army on operations

in the jungles and mountains, carrying heavy loads but being given inadequate food, being made to clear mines ahead of the troops, and given improper medical care or none at all, leading to sickness and death in the wilderness. Those who get back home are unable to continue their own work and livelihood due to total exhaustion and sickness. These conditions are actually worse than those which were endured under the Japanese during World War II.

The students suffering together with the masses have long endured hardship and suffering under the relentless, evil, oppressive regime, but the conditions have continued to intensify and worsen with no sign of let-up. Thus the students have concluded that rather than living a long life defeated, it is better to die fighting for their rights, and they have risen up in student demonstrations. The student movements are not limited only to Rangoon but have spread to students in Mandalay, Yezin, Akyab, Tavoy, Pa-an, Kawkaik, and other big cities, causing the Rangoon regime to close down all the government schools.

As a result of brutal police and military repression of the student demonstrations, over fifty students have been killed recently, along with R.I.T, student Phung Maw, the Secretary for the student union, newly re-formed on March 17, 1988. In addition, over 1650 students have been arrested and detained at the Ye Kyi Aing Detention Center. This use of extreme and inappropriate force by the military dictatorship against the student demonstrators is like the use of a cannon against a small sparrow, or like a man stripping down to prepare for heavy work when he is actually only going to catch a small snail.

The People of all the nationalities:

If we look at the action of the Chauvinistic BSPP military dictatorship, like watching an elephant walking across a paddy field, it becomes quite evident to us that the BSPP do not have the good of the people in mind, such as trying to develop conditions where there is no oppression of each other and where the people can live in peace, harmony, and prosperity. In order that the people might become free from the oppression of the Chauvinistic military dictatorship, it is necessary for the people to support the actions of the students and to fight together with the students for the benefit of all the people of Burma. Therefore we ask you to support the student movements to your utmost capacity and to join hands with the students in their opposition against the Rangoon regime.

Students of the whole country:

'Based on equality and self-determination, the NDF has entered armed resistance on the benefit of liberty, equality, and social progress for all the people of all the nationalities of Burma. The members of the NDF want to assure you what we will stand firmly and fight on the side of the oppressed peoples for freedom and independence.

Therefore the NDF declares that they will offer full and unreserved support for the just cause and requests of the students publicised and during their demonstrations. We will do all we can to help the students and will fight hand in hand with them. Keeping the final and inevitable victory before you, enter the fight with full determination and courage for the battle. As there are no alternatives other than armed conflict for changing the government in a country without democracy, we urge you to quickly establish contact and understanding with the NDF and coordinate your activities to promote and further spread and intensify the fighting against Rangoon regime.

The NDF approves the students in their just and righteous cause leading to student demonstrations and wishes to encourage the students. Likewise, we once again declare our warm welcome to the students as we join together to fight a common enemy. As it is said that the victory is for those who are able to courageously enter the battle, let us bravely enter the struggle together and win the victory together.

Continuously hoist high the historic Student Union Banner!

Let us win the victory by joining the mass uprising with the armed revolution !

March 30th, 1988
1349, the 13th day
of the waning moon of Thaku

The Presidium
The National Democratic Front (NDF)
Burma

30th March 1988

Open letter from the General Secretary of the National Democratic Front-Burma to the President of the Student Union in Rangoon.

To: President
Student Union, Burma

I wish to send my affection to the Student Union President and all the students who joined in the uprising against the one-party dictatorial BSPP regime.

We were very happy and heartily approve the news we heard by radio and newspaper of the just and righteous student uprising on March 12th, 1988, against the injustices of the one-party, military, dictatorial BSPP regime. More so, we grieve for the Student Union Secretary Phung Maw, who was shot down by security forces of the Rangoon regime while he was delivering a speech to the gathered student and civilian masses at street corner, and we wish to recognize and honor him as a student martyr.

Dear President and fellow student leaders, as we approach the end of the 20th century, the blood of both the students and the masses in Burma has flowed like a river at the hands of the BSPP military dictatorial regime hiding in the cloak of Socialism, which could be the master of the former imperialists and the father of Hitler, the German Nazi. In the past, both students and civilians have willingly shed their blood and sacrificed their lives in the following clashes and incidents with the Rangoon regime: the July 7th, 1962 student uprising; the 1967 anti-Chinese incident; the 1969 Southeast Asia Games incident; the 1970 Rangoon Student Festival incident; the May and June 1974 workers' uprising; the December 1974 incident over the former U.N. General Secretary U Thant's funeral; the June 1975 student uprising; the March 1976 Hmaing Jubilee Celebration incident; and the September 1987 student uprising. In the July

7th, 1962 student uprising, over 100 students were murdered by the Burma Army. During the U Thant funeral incident, the Burma Army bayoneted to death 16 students who had embraced U Thant's body to protect it with their lives. The other incidents mentioned above are a matter of historical record and are well-known by all the students.

Dear comrades, the university that you belong to has a long history of standing up against tyranny and injustice, beginning with the demonstrations in 1920 at the Rangoon College, and in 1938 at the 1300 year anniversary student uprising, including opposition to colonialism and supporting national liberation, democracy, and peace. The university in Rangoon played a major role in all of the above demonstrations. As you know, the university also has spawned many of the great national leaders of Burma. If one were to study the history of the universities in Burma, the student unions have demonstrated leadership in political awareness, national unity, and courage, have stood bravely on the side of the oppressed masses, and have courageously led the way in the struggle for freedom. The student unions have never stood by with folded arms whenever the nation was threatened by dangerous problems and whenever the civilian masses were suffering hardships. The N.D.F. will never fail to support the student uprising on behalf of the oppressed masses and any other demonstrations of opposition against the Rangoon regime. The N.D.F. was formed by revolutionary organizations which were brought into existence by similar mass uprisings, having to resort to armed struggle after initial peaceful attempts to demand fundamental and inalienable rights for all the

nationalities were met by armed suppression when the military dictatorship tried to crush the people by use of its military might.

Dear President and leaders of the Student Union, here I wish to talk about the NDF. The NDF was formed on May 10th, 1976. The NDF has a policy to promote national democracy on behalf of the national workers, peasant farmers, small businessmen and traders, government employees, and citizens of all walks of life. The future goal of the NDF is to establish a genuine federal government aspired to by all the masses, where all the nationalities, including the ethnic Burmans, would take part in a system based on equality and self-determination.

The NDF is a united front fighting for liberty, equality, social progress, and democracy by armed struggle on behalf of all the peoples of Burma. At the present time, the revolutionary organizations representing their own people in the NDF include the Arakan Liberation Party, the Kachin Independence Organization, the Karenni National Progressive Party, the Karen National Union, the Lahu National Organization, the New Mon State Party, the Pa-O National Organization, the Palaung State Liberation Party, the Shan State Progress Party, and the Wa National Organization. Thus there are now ten different organizations under the umbrella of the NDF. The doors are wide open for welcoming a Burman and a Chin national revolutionary organization in the NDF in the near future.

Dear President and leaders of the Student Union, we at the NDF sympathize and give full support to demands made by the leaders of the Student Union formed on March 17th, 1988, along with students, Buddhist monks, and the local civilian population. We want to encourage you and support you in every way to continue the struggle until we are victorious. We at the NDF will help and support your activities and make contact with you as we gain understanding of your needs.

In addition, we need to understand that the BSPP is a one-party military dictatorship based on Fascism. The students have peacefully appealed for their rights but the Rangoon regime has attempted to crush them by military force as if they were the enemy on the battle field. Since conducting a peaceful demonstration for human rights and democracy in a military dictatorship is as futile as searching for water in a desert, it will be necessary to join forces with those of us who are involved in armed struggle in order to hasten the day of ultimate victory. We want to suggest that the NDF and the Student Union join hands and organize all existing internal and external anti-Rangoon organizations to bring about quickly the overthrow of the Rangoon regime. Therefore, we invite you to make contact with the NDF headquarters through the nearest NDF member organization to effectively exploit the gains made in the student uprising.

Continue to hoist the historic Student Union banner !

Victory through Unity!

The BSPP military dictatorship must be defeated !

Affectionately Yours,

Khaing Soe Naing Aung

General Secretary
National Democratic Front, Burma

The letter of Dr. Tu Ja to the Foreign Ambassadors.

P.O. Box 183
Chiangmai, Thailand 50000
11 April 1988

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I want to take this opportunity to bring your attention the recent escalating civil unrest that has been developing in Burma. Despite efforts by the Rangoon press to play down the seriousness of the demonstration in Rangoon and other parts of Burma, we have learned that the discontent and disaffection for the present Rangoon regime is deep and has wide support by the masses of Burma. The country is literally at the brink of boiling over and the Rangoon regime has not shown that it is capable of developing strategies for dealing with the real issues, other than by heavy-handed military repression.

We maintain that, the National Democratic Front of Burma (NDF) offers the only realistic alternative and viable hope for the people of Burma. We are also making headway in our efforts to challenge the legitimacy of the Rangoon regime in its 26-year criminal stranglehold and destructive spree in our homeland, Burma. Despite massive military operations against us at the division strength, our forces continue to not only hold their own against the Burma Army, but have successfully countered the Burma Army and have inflicted heavy casualties. If the Rangoon taskmasters attempt to carry this on much more, it is likely that their own troops will soon mutiny in rebellion and in support of massive uprising now simmering throughout the country.

Since it is NDF policy that the present hostilities between the Rangoon regime and the minority nationalities is a political problem

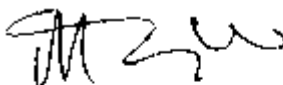
needing a political solution, the NDF is always ready to meet the Rangoon regime at the negotiating table to bring an end to all further bloodshed and needless destruction of much-needed resources for building a secure, peaceful, and prosperous new nation. Despite our overtures, the Rangoon regime continues to pursue and impose a military solution as its "final solution" for the political, social, and economic problems plaguing the country since its birth in 1948.

We need your help as we work towards restoring freedom and democracy in Burma. We need your help to raise your "voice" at the United Nations on behalf of peace in Burma. The present Rangoon regime and its "system" is not only bankrupt but defunct. Thus, we need your help to persuade the Rangoon regime to abandon its dead-end course and listen to the will of the people. We believe their days are numbered and it is only a matter of time before their inevitable downfall.

I am enclosing copies of an NDF statement of support for the revolting students and an open letter addressed to the President of the Student Union in Rangoon. I hope this will help to shed further light on the issues.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Dr. Tu Ja Manam
Secretary, Foreign Affairs
National Democratic Front, Burma

PRESS STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT

Although The National Democratic Front of Burma (NDF) has been in existence for 12 years since March, 1976, the opportunity to present its case to the outside world remains thus far inadequate. Hence the reason for this occasion.

1. THE NDF'S POSITION RELATIVE TO THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT'S OFTEN REPEATED THREAT OF ANNIHILATING THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF BURMA.

On November 1987, the Rangoon government took a group of foreign military attaches and the press corps on a conducted tour of Pa-an, the capital of Karen State and held a press conference where the presiding military intelligence officer boasted that the "insurgencies" would be totally eliminated within two years. Again a similar conducted tour took place at the beginning of this year. This time it was to Myitkyina, the Kachin capital and the former administrative headquarters of the Kachin Independence Organization at Na Hpaw. The same army intelligence officer asserted that the KIO chairman Brang Seng had fled the country and that the Kachin Independence Army had disintegrated and no longer had any base of support. Ironically, while such claims were being made, the Burma Army furiously expanded its battalions and divisions and simultaneously conducted large and small operations throughout the contested areas.

Rather than conforming to the government's prophecy, the NDF became a stronger force politically and militarily as it expanded its activities from north to south. Three military sectors were established and a general synchronisation of war activity was implemented. A new freedom movement known as The Zomi Liberation Front (ZLF)

was formed in the Chin Hills to the west of Burma.

Therefore, the Burmese government's claim of annihilating the freedom movements of the indigenous peoples is absolutely ridiculous.

2. THE NDF'S STAND ON INTERNAL PEACE

In spite of the fact that Burma is rich in natural resources, today she had to beg the United Nations to grant her status of the Least Developed Country because of the utter mismanagement of its economy. Burma's foreign debt stands at 4.2 billion dollars. The peoples are forced to become blackmaketeers to survive and never knowing when their earnings will be further diminished by the government's propensity for demonetisation. The situation is exacerbated by the government's drive to strengthen the army by alloting huge amount of the budget to defence.

In order to escape from this dire existence, all the indigenous peoples and the entire masses today resort to arms and other means of resistance. Like peoples of all walks of life, the NDF does not want war and desires to end the civil conflict as soon as feasible thereby ushering a truly lasting peace.

The BSPP government, must therefore address the following political problems which are the root causes of war.

a. The suppression of one race against another should cease and a federal form of government which is suitable for all be established.

b. The one-party system should be replaced by a multi-party parliamentary democracy.

c. The state monopoly system be replaced by a democratic social and economic system.

d. The cause of the present conflict is political, therefore a political solution must be sought. However, unlike previous attempts at peace, future negotiations must be conducted on neutral ground and under the supervision of an impartial mediator.

3. THE NDF'S POLITICAL STAND AND THE FUTURE ON THE UNION

The NDF was formed in 1976, uniting ten freedom movements of the indigenous nationalities. It held its first congress in 1982 and the 2nd congress in 1987 and reaffirmed the three basic principles on which the Front was formed viz. liberty, equality and social progress. It envisages for the future, a federal form of government where each state will have the rights of self-determination, democracy and inherent birthright which is human rights.

4. THE NDF'S STAND ON NARCOTICS

The NDF already had laid down its policy on narcotics. It presently enforces its directives by eradication and dissemination of information through mass education. It opens its doors to any and all who are concerned and ready to cooperate in discussion. Such desires are nevertheless hampered by the BSPP government which uses narcotics suppression as a front to receive and ask for more aids

from abroad by tarnishing the image of freedom fighters while totally ineffectual in stopping the flow of narcotics as in fact evidenced by the increase in opium production in the last ten years.

Therefore, to effectively eradicate and interdict the narcotics problem, The NDF makes the following recommendations:

1. Because the internal war hampers effective implementation of any interdiction programs, the civil conflict must be stopped.

2. Donor nations which have supported the Burmese government must apply pressure to the regime. This is based on the premise that if narcotics is the concern of all the world, then the question of internal peace which bears directly on the narcotics problem, should and must be the concern and interest of the world.

In conclusion, the NDF, based on 12 years of past experience has become more mature and stronger. It stands solidly behind all the oppressed citizens of Burma who have endured 40 years of the vagaries of a civil war, and in order to achieve the goal of peace and federal union in consonance with the wishes of the people, will steadfastly continue the fight for freedom and dignity.



KWO meeting at Me Ta Rit.

The Brawl That Became a Riot

The first news the outside world heard of the trouble came over Rangoon radio. It all began, the broadcasts said, when two students and five local residents disagreed over a Saturday night request to have a cassette tape played at the Sanda Win tea-shop in the suburb of Insein. Then bar stools flew, the students were injured and the locals arrested. The next night, some of the students' colleagues from the Rangoon Institute of Technology set fire to a local shop. The blaze spread as students and residents battled it out in the streets. It took until late into the night for the authorities to quiet the melee. Official reports said that thirteen people had been injured and one, 23-year-old student Maung Phone Maw, had died.

That, it turned out, was just the beginning. What the government media covered in much less detail was how it escalated. According to one Western embassy report, the immediate cause of the continuation was the disposal of Maung Phone Maw's body. His family and friends wanted him laid to rest in a tomb, but the authorities arranged to have him cremated instead. On Tuesday students at the Institute of Technology, angered by the government decision, again went on the rampage. According to a government newspaper report, both police and armed forces officials met with the students later that evening. But the talk obviously failed to placate them. Eyewitness accounts say the protests spread the next day to Rangoon University, and this time police responded not with words, but with batons and teargas.

When Maung Phone Maw's cremation went ahead on March 17 as planned, the unrest spilled into Rangoon proper. By that time,

the diplomatic report says, 'a broad cross-section' of society was involved in what had become a general anti-government protest. The state press reported that rioters in the city centre burned private and government-owned vehicles, including a fire engine. The ground floor of the People's Department Store was also put to the torch by looters. The Western embassy account said riot police and troops of the 22nd Light Infantry Division took up positions around the capital. A diplomatic estimate put the death toll at up to 30, with at least one policeman beaten to death by the mobs.

It was the most serious disturbance in the Burmese capital since the riots of 1974, which were sparked by student dissatisfaction over the funeral of respected Burmese U.N. secretary-general U Thant. The next explosion came last September, when students protested against the government's sudden withdrawal of its three higher-denomination banknotes, a desperate measure to boost the collapsing economy. At that time the authorities shut down schools and universities for seven weeks. Classes have also been cancelled as a result of last week's disturbances, and are not expected to begin again until the new term in May.

Last week, with the disturbance apparently under control, the government announced an inquiry into its causes, including the death of Maung Phone Maw 'from gunshot wounds' the first official news of how he died. The investigation knows of how he died. The investigation may not entirely appease the student outrage. Diplomats were concerned that it could just spark a new round of trouble.

Eyewitness account

Up to 28 people were killed in Rangoon last week in the worst riots in Burma since 1974, according to reports reaching Bangkok over the weekend.

The unconfirmed reports said troops armed with guns and batons stormed into the city on Thursday to disperse thousands of protesting students at several campuses.

Rampaging residents and students smashed and set fire to government buildings but did not touch private property. Travellers returning to Bangkok told Reuters on Saturday.

Rangoon was quiet over the weekend following a protest on Friday during which students and others shouted anti-government slogans, wrecked cars and set fire to a department store.

Security personnel guarded key government buildings. Only privately owned vehicles were seen on the streets, and Rangoon's normally crowded Scott and Central markets were closed.

According to AP, some Rangoon residents complained privately of police heavy handedness in dispersing the demonstrators, and there were rumours of casualties and large numbers of arrests by the authorities.

Hundreds of demonstrators were jailed and about 50 injured in unrest triggered by the shooting to death of a student in clashes with local youths last weekend, diplomats said.

A government commission is to begin an investigation today into the death of the 23-year-old student.

Dunash Kamar, a 21-year-old Israeli tourist, was in Rangoon on Friday and said he witnessed a group of students burning cars and throwing rocks before being confronted by soldiers.

'I could see the students burn a car and crowd throw stones at the tourist office,' he told the Post yesterday.

'After about 30 minutes, the army came and the crowd scattered. There were about five trucks full of soldiers armed with machine guns and sticks....I could see a guy beaten up real hard.'

Other witnesses said government trucks roamed the streets to announce a curfew and urge people to go home on Friday night.

Sources yesterday said the situation in the city was still tense.

Expatriates in Bangkok said all international telephone lines from Rangoon had been cut since Saturday, although calls originating here could get through.

The unrest began with a brawl between students and local youths at the Rangoon Institute of Technology had turned into a widespread riot of students and residents against the government.

Open protest has been rare in Burma since military strongman Ne Win seized power in 1962 and instituted rigid, one-party rule. But over the past two years, small-scale disturbances and outbursts of violence have occurred in apparent reaction to worsening economic conditions.

Last September, hundreds of students in Rangoon rioted to protest a government decision to invalidate three denominations of banknotes.

On Friday, students and others gathered at a large park adjoining the City Hall and went on a rampage before police dispersed them several hours later.

Meanwhile, Burmese state radio said leaders of central and regional party committees and the armed forces on Saturday made preparations for the sixth party congress.

The congress, which reviews leadership, was not scheduled to convene for another two years. The broadcast did not say when it would now meet.

Seven days that shook Rangoon

As an uneasy calm has returned to Rangoon after a week of violent clashes between anti-government demonstrators and security forces in March, time has come to begin reckoning the cost of restoring order in terms of bloodshed, arrests and effects on the regime's international repercussions.

For the first time since the military takeover in Burma in 1962, analysts are now seriously questioning the future stability of the country's government.

"The recent unrest exposed how fragile the Burmese government actually is. It is hardly a secret that it lacks widespread, popular support-but now, there are also signs of cracks within the ruling circles, and between different sections of the security apparatus, whose unity is vital for the regime's survival. Even if few people think that the fall of the government is imminent many have adopted a 'wait-and-see' attitude and they clearly want to keep their options open," argued one observer of the political scene in Burma.

The unexpected outburst of violence began on March 12 with a brawl between two students from the prestigious Rangoon Institute of Technology (RIT) and some local youth at Sanda Win teashop in West Gyogon Ward on Insein Road—one of Rangoon's major thoroughfares—and it snowballed into the main anti-government manifestation of the Burmese public since July 1962 when the capital was rocked by student protests against the military coup d'etat, which had taken place in March of that year.

There are, perhaps not surprisingly in a closed society, many conflicting accounts of the teashop incident and the subsequent, spontaneous outburst of anti-government demonstrations. But the events during these seven days that shook Rangoon could be placed together from reports by eye-witnesses, local sources and diplomats as follows:

Saturday, March 12: Two RIT students went to Sanda Win, which also houses a clandestine gambling den behind the actual teashop.

An argument erupted between them and the son of the teashop owner over the gambling debts of one of the students.

The owner turned up the music inside the teashop to conceal the loud argument in the backroom gambling den. Some customers complained about the noise. A fight broke out and one of the students was stabbed, allegedly by the teashop owner's son.

The students reported the incident to the local police who arrested the suspect-only to release him on bail shortly afterwards; the local police and officials of the 'People's Council' - or administrative body - of West Gyogon Ward had all been paid off by the gambling den operators and, therefore, tried to hush up the incident.

Sunday, March 13: The RIT students, infuriated over the coverup and the release of someone who was suspected of attempted murder, marched to the teashop and set it ablaze. About 200 RIT students participated in the demonstration and riot police were dispatched to disperse the crowd. Fourteen people, 13 of whom were students, were injured-and Maung Phone Maw, a well-known student from RIT, was shot and killed. He had been the top RIT, student for two consecutive years and also associated with the youth organisation of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP).

A nearby 'People's Store'-or government - run cooperative - was also burnt down but under circumstances which remain unclear. Some sources claim that enraged students were responsible, while others assert that the owner himself torched the store, taking advantage of the fire at the teashop to destroy his own, fiddled account books and depleted stocks of goods. The Burmese fiscal year ends in March and that is when government enterprises have to submit their annual accounts which means that fires are usual at that time of the year.

Monday, March 14: This was a comparatively quiet day, according to most reports. No disturbances took place although aggrieved

students may have held meetings on their respective campuses to discuss the situation.

Tuesday, March 15: The authorities issued a communique blaming 'unruly students' for the unrest in West Gyogon Ward - which caused widespread protests both at the RIT and the Rangoon Arts and Science University (RASU). Rallies were held on several campuses; a government official, who went to the RASU and asked the students there what their demands were, was told that 'we want to overthrow the fascist regime.'

Break up

By then, the protests had taken a very definite anti-government stance. RASU students demonstrated outside Kamayut Police Station, close to their campus in the northern suburbs - and riot policemen were sent to both the RIT and the RASU to break up the crowds of protesters. Many people were beaten up when the police baton-charged the crowds.

Wednesday, March 16: Crowds of students were waiting at Kyandaw Cemetery near the university for the cremation of Maung Phone Maw. But no one arrived; the mourners learnt later that his dead body had been taken in an unmarked coffin, carried by a vehicle which was closely guarded by the police, to Tamwe Crematorium at the other end of Rangoon and cremated there. This enraged the students even further.

RASU students joined hands with students from the Hlaing Campus of the Institute of Economics and marched down Prome Road towards Inya Lake. The riot police chased them out into the water where many students - including several girls - were beaten unconscious, fell in the lake and drowned. Now, the anti-government feelings spread to the ordinary people who resented the brutality of the police.

Thursday, March 17: the government issued an unprecedented notification on the formation of an Enquiry Commission to investigate the unrest and the death of Maung Phone Maw. The commission is headed by Ba Maw, a member of the Council of People's Justices, Hla Tint from the Council of People's Attorneys and Dr Maung Shein of the Council of People's Inspectors.

Apparently viewing this unexpected development, as a partial victory over the government, the students held a meeting on the RASU campus and announced that they had set up an independent Students' Union - but its secretary was allegedly shot and killed while giving a speech at the corner of Thukha Street. Troops effectively took over the RASU campus. Tensions between the students and the authorities escalated.

Friday, March 18: 'The Bloody Friday' in Rangoon. About 300 students marched down to Sule pagoda in central Rangoon shouting anti-government slogans such as:

'The Government ... is useless and we have no use for it'

'The Tatmadaw (army)'... 'is useless and we have no use for it'

'Long Live Aung San-he's our President'

Within an hour, 12,000-15,000 people had joined the students; others were standing in their windows applauding every anti-government slogan and cheering when the demonstrators destroyed government property and set fire to a state-run department store in the city centre. About 50 policemen who had gathered outside Bandoola Park near Sule Pagoda fled when they saw the massive crowds.

Blocked off

But shortly afterwards, the much better equipped Lon Htein, or riot police, arrived at the scene, teargassing the crowds, unleashing baton charges and firing warning shots in the air. All the main roads leading to the city centre were blocked off for civilians, while regular army units were rushed in: elements of the 22nd Light Infantry Division (LID) arrived in lorry convoys from the Karen State capital of Pa-an. These were followed by more elite troops from the Thaton-based 44th LID and the 77th from Hmawbi Air Base just north of Rangoon.

Old Comet tanks of World War Two vintage were positioned outside the Presidential Palace and strongman Gen Ne Win's residence. Government vehicles mounted with loudspeakers told people to stay home. At least 10 truckloads of rioters - students as well as ordinary townspeople - were seen being taken to Insein Jail, the Yay Kyi Aing or 'Clear-water

Pond' Prison near Mingaladon airport and even upcountry to Tharrawaddy, 100 km. north of Rangoon.

Numerous deaths were reported from indiscriminate baton charges, occasional police firing and by beatings and suffocation in overcrowded prison cells after the swoops in central Rangoon.

The people in Rangoon are now waiting for the Enquiry Commission's report which is to the council of State no later than today-and many people seem to feel that this will be an important test for the government; a report that clears the security forces is bound to upset the students and the general public - but, on the other hand, the police would most probably find it hard to accept a verdict which implicates them in the killings. This may be especially so since the man who directed the police operations was Sein Lwin, the secretary of the Council of State and number three in the overall Burmese hierarchy. Sein Lwin's rise to prominence began after the July 1962 riots, which he also put down with an iron-fist; observers then placed the number of casualties in the hundreds.

'Most probably, the government would have to find a scapegoat which could be either the insurgents or 'foreigners,' ' said one diplomatic source.

There are already indications that this may be the case. Maung Phone Maw was reportedly shot by an M-16, a rifle which in Burma is used only by various Thai border-based insurgent groups - and by the police which are issued with weapons captured from the rebels.

'It's quite possible that the blame will be put on an agent provocateur from the insurgents to clear the police and avoid upsetting the students,' the diplomat commented.

As for the 'foreign' involvement, several Rangoon-based diplomats noted that a large number of Muslims of Indian origin - who are not considered full Burmese citizens under the Citizenship Act of 1982 - were subjected to arbitrary arrests in the evening of March 18 when they came out from their Friday Jumma prayers in mosques in central Rangoon. Ac-

cording to one observer: 'The government managed to turn resentment over the 1967 rice shortage into an anti-chinese riot in Rangoon. This could well happen again, but now the Muslims seem to be the target.'

Support

While the 1976 Chinatown riots in Rangoon triggered off massive Chinese support for the insurgent Communist Party of Burma (CPB), attacks on the Muslim community in the capital may well provoke a similar reaction from militant, revivalist movements in the Islamic world. The difference, of course, is that the Muslim forces outside Burma would not support the isolated CPB, but the potentially much more influential non-communists groups in Burma.

'It doesn't really matter whether these groups are Muslims or not. The main thing is that they are against the present Burmese government - and prepared to fight to protect Muslim interests. And I believe that contacts already have been made between some insurgent groups in Burma and certain Muslim countries in view of this development. The insurgents have also issued statements supporting the students in Rangoon and smuggled tape recordings into the capital,' asserted one knowledgeable inside source who requested anonymity.

This development highlights a serious threat to the present regime in Rangoon: if the insurgency spreads to the urban areas it could pose a direct challenge to the regime itself-and accelerate the split which many sources claim has surfaced between 'hardliners' such as Sein Lwin and more liberal, reform-orientated government officials.

The same school of thought argues that if the recent, spontaneous outburst of anti-government activity in Rangoon could snowball into a mass-movement, a second, similar wave of protests could lead to elements of the security forces spontaneously joining in.

'Then, it could snowball even further. Given the present political and economic crisis in Burma, it needs very little to tip the balance. People are just waiting for someone to take

the first step,' argued one analyst. But who that 'someone' might be is a question nobody can answer, Burma has no equivalent Ninoy or Cory Aquino in the Philippines. The leaderless nature of the recent mass movement

was clearly emphasised by the students proclaiming as their leader the nationalist hero Aung San - who was assassinated in 1947, 20 years before many of the demonstrators in Rangoon last month were even born.



Dooplaya District KWO leaders.



Kawthoolei Women's Orgzt. meeting at Azin. Dooplaya Dist.HQ.

Riots Divide Burmese leadership

by Denis Gray of AP

As many as 100 persons may have died during recent riots in Burma, the brutal suppression of which has created some rifts in that country's leadership, reliable diplomatic sources told the Associated Press yesterday.

Several days of student unrest climaxed last March 18 with anti-government riots in down-town Rangoon that were put down rapidly by police and military units.

Although the government has acknowledged only one death and released no figures on numbers arrested, diplomats, tourists and others travelling from Rangoon over the past month have described young women students being beaten by batons, secret cremations of the dead and mass arrests.

PROBLEMS

These sources, some with access to the Burmese military, say the March events together with continued economic problems have deepened popular resentment against the 26-year-regime of strongman Ne Win and created some disputes within the power hierarchy.

Also widely regarded as hardline are President San Yu and State Council Secretary Sein Lwin, who directed the suppression of the demonstrations. Defence Minister Kyaw Htin and Finance Minister Tun Tin are seen as more liberal on both economic matters and government reaction to internal dissent.

But several Rangoon based diplomats, who requested anonymity, said it was unlikely these differences would lead to radical changes unless the powerful military also become involved. Ne Win, who heads the country's sole political party, has in the past moved swiftly to put down all potential opposition.

CREMATED

One knowledgeable Rangoon-based diplomat said he was privately told by Burmese military officials that 44 bodies were cremated at Chantaw cemetery on the night of March 18, and another nine on the night of April 6.

The diplomat said that with bodies still in Rangoon morgues and others who died of wounds in hospitals and at home, the death toll from the riots could be as high as 100.

Fragmented reports by witnesses and others coming from Rangoon immediately after

March 18 told of far more deaths than the single casualty cited by the government - a 23-year-old student shot in a melee on March 13. A commission investigating his death is to report its findings to the government on May 17. The hearings are closed to the public and the final report is not to be published.

SPARKED

The student's death sparked demonstrations at several Rangoon campuses and spread to downtown Rangoon where students anti-government slogans, wrecked cars and set fire to a department store before they were dispersed by riot police.

Witnesses said some demonstrators were shot by the authorities, who chased fleeing students and beat them with batons.

'Girls were lifted by their hair and thrown into police vans like slaughtered animals,' one said

The government - controlled press made virtually no mention of the violence.

The US embassy in downtown Rangoon is known to have videotaped a part of the riots and some diplomats have privately told visitors they were 'stunned by the brutality.'

ABUSES

A group of students also passed a note into the embassy building asking for the United States to speak out against human rights abuses in Burma. The US government has not issued a statement on the demonstrations.

Witnesses saw large numbers of students being arrested and taken away during the riots, and diplomats have estimated that more than 3,000 were detained at Insein jail near Rangoon and Thayawaddy prison to the north of the capital.

It is not known how many are still being held but a number have been released.

Previous major anti-government disturbances occurred in 1974. Students were again the key group as they were in July 1962, when 22 students at Rangoon University were shot and killed by authorities while protesting the military coup that brought Ne Win to power, Sein Lwin headed a military unit which quelled the protests.

Translation

AN APPEAL

Please Help the Students

The government has set the students and people up against each other. The Military Police dogs using tear-gas bombs, guns entered the RIT compound, and started the shooting, shedding the blood of student martyrs. The wounded students have been kicked with army boots and hit with clubs. On 15.3. 88 these clubs were used on the students marching on the Inya Lake Bund into the RASU compound and even the female students suffered head injuries and were covered in blood.

On 17,3,88 the Military Police dogs under orders of their 'authorities' (the word used here being a play on the word to mean 'those who avoid responsibility') took control of the RIT.

On 16.3,88 the RASU was taken control of and 2,000 students were cruelly beaten up or killed, and 2,000 students were cruelly beaten up or killed and arrested.

The government, knowing no shame, has announced 'untrue report from the radio.

Now that over 2000 sons and daughters of the working, people are imprisoned in the Yay Kyi Aing Prison camp and are being treated mercilessly, you should not be standing by watching with your arms folded.

We invite you to join in our fight in order that these arrested students will be released as soon as possible.

Students' Union

Students' Demands on the Killing of Technical Student

1) To establish the full and accurate truth, through the newspaper on the killing of the students.

2) To allow the students to conduct a funeral for the innocent students that were killed.

3) To put into record the regrets of the government and of the Institute on the killing of the above-mentioned students.

4) To immediately reveal and take action against civilians who had murdered with knives, and murderers who had used tear-gas and fire-arms to kill.

5) To officially establish a body that could take responsibility in executing the rights of the students.

6) To reveal the reason in giving the order to shoot the students.

7) To keep all schools collages open.

The above demands are to be met by 17.3. 88 at the latest.

NOTE The killing of innocent students is strongly protested and deplored on behalf of the students of the whole country

(A hand-written pamphlet from a student)

Causes leading to students' strike

1. Receding conditions of students rights
2. Rising cost of schooling
3. Economic hardships faced by parents of students
4. A forcible repression of students' rights by the fascist regime

Students' demands

1. Revelation of an account of the incident and action against Chairman of the People's Council (of Gyogone West Ward)
2. Announcement of Hpone Maw's death by gunshots.
3. Release of detained students
4. Conditions to continue studies peacefully (Non-closure of universities, colleges etc)
5. State funeral for RIT student Hpone Maw
6. Actions against security policemen who shot and killed female students
7. Formation of student unions.

Formation of a Student Union on March 17

President : A member of the teaching staff from the Rangoon University (who took active part during the strike at U Thant's funeral)

Secretary : (1) a male student
 (2) a female student.
 (shot and killed while giving a
 speech at the corner of Thukha
 Street)

Members : 35 students

Total number of Executive committee mem-
 bers: 38 (now 37, after one killed)

Instances of police brutality

1. Ruthless slaughter of unarmed students by security police.
2. Immersing the heads of two girls in water and hitting their faces with truncheons.
3. The shooting and killing of the Secretary of the Students Union while making a speech to a crowd.
4. Suppressing the mobs with the use of tear-gas.
5. Causing grievous injury to Major - General Ko Gyi's son who had to be given five head-stitches.

Grievances from RIT

- He is not the only one who lives in this country.
- It is time to show our spirit.
- Military rule is disintegrated.
- This man who has held the gun and come into power has shed the blood of our brothers.
- He may not have long to live.
- However our conscience shall live on.
- The authority of the country is not in the hands of the people. Military rule is not Socialism.
- Those who love the country and want its prosperity shall enter into battle.

A group of patriots



President Gen.Bo Mya speaking at KWO meeting at Me Ta Rit.

BURMA HOLDS OUT BEGGING BOWL TO THE UN

From JOSE KATIGBAK in Rangoon

A unique blend of Buddhism and socialism has led Burma to the poorhouse.

Now the nation of 38 million people has reached the end of its economic tether after 25 years of military rule under its autocratic leader, General Ne Win, who is the champion of what has been dubbed 'the Burmese way to socialism'

Burma is about to have its impoverished status made official, asking the United Nations to classify it as a 'Least Developed Country' (LDC).

'Burma's request has already gone through the machinery and been approved. It's just a question of the UN General Assembly in New York formally endorsing it,' a UN spokesman said.

The move will allow Burma to obtain debt relief from major donor nations.

The spokesman said the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) and the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) were also preparing to increase their assistance.

Diplomats said the request to the UN must have been difficult for the 77-year-old General Ne Win because it meant admitting his policies had failed.

He admitted these failures in a speech in August to an unprecedented meeting of political leaders in Rangoon in which he berated officials for supplying untrue reports.

The strictly-controlled Government media have not told the Burmese they are now officially among the world's poorest people.

One diplomat said he was asked by a government official: 'Do you think we're going to tell them that we've failed?'

Ordinary Burmese have, however, been badly hurt by the Government's decision on September 5 to invalidate all banknotes over 15 kyats (about HK\$17.90), making 60 to 80 percent of the country's cash worthless.

The Government gave no explanation but diplomats said it was aimed at extensive black market trading-which undermines much of the

official economy.

When the news was announced, students rioted in Rangoon and Mandalay and the government closed all schools and universities to prevent further trouble.

According to diplomats, Burmese per capital.

According to diplomats, Burmese per capital income is about US\$ 3.5 billion (HK\$ 27.3 billion).

Interest payments on this debt amount to 70 percent of total export earnings.

The United States embassy, in a report on Burmese economic trends, said the country's debt service ratio for the financial year ending last March would be 73 percent if Burma had managed to reach its export target of US\$407 million (HK\$3.18 billion).

If, as is believed, merchandise exports were close to the 1985-86 figure, the debt service ratio may have been as high as 90 per cent,' the report said.

As a result, Burma has little foreign exchange to spare for imports of essential equipment and spare parts.

Diplomats said falling export earnings had forced the government to draw on its foreign reserves. These fell to a record as low as US\$24.4 million (HK\$90 million) in February 1987, according to the International Monetary Fund, barely enough to finance two weeks of imports.

Diplomats said these measures would help Burma cope in the short term but did not address fundamental economic inefficiencies.

'In the first year or so Burma, as the newest pauper on the block, could get significant aid pledges from donor countries,' a diplomat said.

'But the world is weary of seeing begging bowls.

There are 10 LDCs in Asia: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Kiribati, Laos, the Maldives, Nepal, Western Samoa, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Diplomats said much of Burma's debts to its main creditors, Japan and West Germany, would be written off because of its LDC status.

A West German embassy spokesman said that in accordance with its usual practice for LDCs, the Bonn Government was likely to write off its outstanding loans to Burma.

In our case alone, Burma will save US\$35 million (HK\$273 million) in annual debt ser-

ving payments,' he said.

A Japanese embassy spokesman said Burma's outstanding debt to Japan was about US \$1 billion (about HK\$7.8 billion).

At least 50 percent could be written off, he said, but the exact percentage was not yet known.

Reuter



Sho Klo KWO meeting.



KWO meeting at Thay Baw Bo market.

The U.S. Role in Burma's Drug War

BY LUCY KOMISAR

One evening in Manerplaw, headquarters for the Karen rebels in the Burma jungle, soldiers watched an American movie, 'Year of the Dragon,' played on a videocassette recorder. It was about a New York Chinatown drug trafficker who tries to become boss of the local heroin trade.

He flies to Bangkok and then goes up-country to meet with a drug-dealing guerrilla leader. As they discuss their business, the New Yorker remarks that the money he pays will help the guerrillas fight the Burmese.

One of the Karen troops sprawled on the porch of the rough wood house pointed to the burly guerrilla chief on the screen. 'That's supposed to be Khun Sa,' he said. Recognizing someone they knew, the others watching the film also became attentive.

The U.S. is also attentive to Khun Sa. The State Department now is working out the latest allocation of \$7 million to \$8 million in its seven-year-old program to help Burma eradicate opium poppy fields and interdict drug traffic. It provides funds for replacement and maintenance of planes, helicopters and communications equipment and for training of pilots, signal corps and army units.

On first glance, it seems a worthy program. It is aimed at the Burmese part of the Golden Triangle, a 60,000-square-mile territory that includes parts of Burma, Laos and Thailand. The opium grown in the Golden Triangle most of it in Northern Burma, accounts for 20% of the heroin that reaches the U.S.

Relying on Dictators

On closer look, the program is bad policy. Relying on dictators to wipe out drugs is no more effective in Burma than it is in Panama. In fact, it ought to embarrass President Reagan who often speaks out for religion and against 'godless communism.' The Burmese anti-drug program, while having little effect on the opium trade opium production has increased since the test spraying began in 1984 is a helpful counter insurgency tool for the

Rangoon dictatorship in its 40-year effort to wipe out the rebellion of minority tribes, some of whom are fighting to protect their right to practice Christianity.

The poppy-growing area is in the middle of territory controlled by the Shans, the Kachins, and the Burmese Communist Party, all of whom are battling the pseudocommunist Rangoon government. It is also home to the forces of Khun Sa, who barely makes pretensions to political motivations. Reputed to be the world's biggest heroin trafficker, he has fought the Burmese with his Shan United Army for 25 years. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency believes Khun Sa controls most of the 90 or more tons of heroin produced annually from Golden Triangle opium.

Between 1974 and 1983, U.S. aid aimed at suppressing narcotics in Burma totaled \$47 million; the U.S. supplied Rangoon with 18 Bell helicopters and some transport planes. The Karens, who do not live in an opium producing area, shot down two of the helicopters over their territory.

Crop Eradication

The U.S. in 1981 began training Burmese military for crop eradication and three years later started providing Rangoon with 2,4-D, an herbicide linked to cancer. The product is banned in California, Oregon and other states and is under review by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Washington requires that spraying be 'publicly announced and have strong environmental guarantees' and that it not be used on food crops or for counterinsurgency purposes. U.S. officials must take Rangoon's word on compliance as they are banned from visiting the militarized zones which cover 45% of the country. Rebels claim that the program targets villages that support them.

For the villages in the northern mountains, there is no market economy or transport system except for opium, the only cash crop, which has been grown in Northern Burma for

more than 100 years. Farmers cultivate the poppies in plots also planted with the food they eat.

Robert Tuja, a dentist and Kachin leader who is also foreign secretary of the rebel alliance, the National Democratic Front, said the toxic spray has destroyed peasants' food crops and livestock and caused human illness. Edith Mirante, an American advocate of tribal rights, says Shan peasants she interviewed reported deaths caused by eating contaminated vegetables.

But not all opium producers suffer. Well-connected farmers avoid problems by paying off Burmese officials and the military.

'Ne Win (the Burmese leader) has no control over them,' explained David, a 52-year-old former chemist who is the Karen's political secretary. 'The official policy may be that even if they know about this, they don't try to pre-

vent it, because it's a way of bribing their own officers to ensure their support.'

He said that beginning three years ago, the Burmese Navy started giving protection to smugglers sailing to Singapore and Penang, Malaysia. 'They were quietly doing it at first and were pocketing all the money, and later on the Air Force came to know about that and wanted a share. So they flew reconnaissance flights over the seas where the smugglers were plying.

'They asked the Navy why there were so many boats that appeared to be smugglers boats. The Navy was a bit embarrassed about that and told the Air Force to give them four or five days warning when they were flying over the sea in their areas because they had noticed some unidentified aircraft and didn't want to shoot down their own by mistake.'



Central KWO leaders at Mina An.

SUMMARY REPORTS OF KNLA MILITARY ACTIVITIES FROM 1.1.1988 TO 31.3.1988

Military Zone	No. 7 Bne Attacks	No. 7 KNLA Attacks	KNLA Mine bombs	Enr. Casualties			Enr. Losses in Arms & Ammos.						REMARKS
				Killed	Wounded	Leg-Sever	Small Arms	Magazines	Ammos	Heavy Weapons	bombs	Hand Grenades	
No. 1	-	16	11	47	59	4	10	41	2355	-	21	3	(5) bridges (2) trucks destroyed, (2) officers and (2) NCO kid, (1) officer and (2) NCO wdd.
No. 2	-	1	5	8	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	Capt. Thein Win Ng kid, (1) officer (2) NCO wdd.
No. 3	-	8	6	14	28	-	1	-	100	-	10	-	(1) officer and (1) NCO kid, (1) car with stores destroyed. Captured (2) flags.
No. 4	-	15	2	31	24	-	6	15	2238	-	36	6	(1) bridge destroyed. Capt. Than Myint kid.
No. 5	-	17	10	104	84	-	18	64	3450	-	25	13	(1) bridge (3) trucks destroyed, (1) column Commander (5) other officers (1) NCO kid, (1) truck with (1) SAMM (1) 60MM (3) 79MM (4) G-3 (10) carbines, and large amt. of ammos in the truck totally destroyed.
No. 6	15	18	33	96	309	10	14	32	5105	-	109	13	(1) bridge (5) trucks destroyed, (1) Column Commander and (5) other officers kid, (4) officers and (9) NCO wounded.
101 Bn.	13	15	19	55	180	7	12	13	1850	-	90	3	(5) trucks destroyed (4) Col. Commanders and (4) other officers kid, (4) officers and (6) NCO wdd.
20 Bn.	-	10	5	41	29	-	4	22	480	-	-	2	(2) officers and (4) NCO kid, (3) NCO wdd, (1) eae. surrender.
Tado Wah	-	20	7	45	41	-	25	38	723	-	-	-	(4) trucks destroyed, (2) officers kid, (1) officer and (2) NCO wdd.
GHO	-	7	34	46	33	9	4	24	380	-	-	-	(1) ene, shot himself.
	28	127	132	487	796	32	94	249	16701	-	291	40	(8) bridges destroyed (19) trucks destroyed (29) officers and (8) NCO kid, (11) officers (24) NCO wdd.

Some Important Military Achievements of KNLA Troops from 1-1-88 to 31-3-88

No. 1 Military Zone. (Thaton District)

On 6-1-88, our No.2 Bn combined with our militias attacked enemies at Law Pu village. All enemies fled after little resistance, captured (1) AR rifle with (5) magazines and (245) rounds, (1) G-3 rifle with (10) magazines and (600) rounds, (15) 2 inch-mortar bombs and a quantity of military equipments and stores.

On 18-1-88, our joined bomb exploded between Ler Klaw and Tat Paw inflicting (5) enemies killed and (8) wounded.

On 22-1-88, our Brigade special force combined with some militia attacked enemy at Tee Nya Lu Klo bridge. The enemies fled after little resistance. (1) enemy being killed. Captured (1) G-3 rifle and destroyed the bridge.

On 29-1-88, (2) trucks were damaged by our mine bombs between Ei Su Ki and To Kaw Ko. On that same day our troop destroyed (1) bridge near Ei Su Ki.

On 30-1-88, our troops ambushed enemies between Me Ta Na Ki and Ti Ku inflicting (4) enemies killed.

On 23-2-88, our troops ambushed enemy No.2 Strategic operation Commander returning from Papun with joined bombs between Ei Su Ki and Nat Kyi. (20) enemies were wounded including the S.O.C.

On 5-3-88, our Bde. special force combined with some militia attacked enemy camp at Tu Rwi Ki. Fighting lasted 30 minutes after which all enemies fled. Captured (1) G-3 rifle with (1000) ammos, (8) military caps, (5) suits military uniforms, (1) Cassette radio and some military equipments and stores.

On 17-3-88, our troops attacked enemy at Bawthabyu. (3)enemies were killed including (1) sgt. maj. and (1) sgt. and (3) wounded. Captured (1) G-4 rifle with (6)

magazines and (150) rounds ammos and (1) hand-grenade.

On 18-3-88, exploded (1) joined bomb between Pyntha and Be Le No. (3) enemies got killed including Coy Comdr. Mya Saw and (6) wounded.

On 30-3-88 our KNDO 3rd Bn attacked enemies at Kahata village. All enemies fled leaving (4) dead bodies, captured (1) G-4 (1) G-3 (1) G-2 rifles, 3 sets military equipments (16) G-3 magazines with 360 rounds ammos.

No. 2 Military Zone. Toungoo District

On 24-1-88, our troops attacked enemy at Klaw Mi Der, inflicting (1) enemy killed and (2) wounded including (1) Coporal. On that same day our (1) joined bomb exploded near Paletwata inflicting (2) enemies killed and (6) wounded including Coy 2 l/c Khin Mg, Hla.

No. 3 Military zone. Klerlwehtu District.

On 23-1-88, our troops combined with some Tah Doh Wah troops attacked enemies at Bayanathi/Kyaukkyi Bauk and Myang U. Managed to burn down (1) police station, (6) enemies and (2) enemy Militias were killed and (9) wounded. Our troops captured (1) G-3 rifle, (100) rounds sten, (6) sets military equipments, (1) No. 73 Inf, Bn flag, (1) Peasant's organization flag, (2) Hand Grenades and some other military equipments and medicines.

No. 4 Military Zone. (Mergui-Tavoy District).

On 22.1.88, our troops attacked enemy at Kokata Ridge, and occupied the post after (20) minutes fighting, (3) enemies were killed including capt. Than Myint, Captured (1) G-4, (1) G-3 Rifles with (14) magazines and (988) rounds ammos. (24) 2 inch bombs, (1) Browning Pistol magazine with (50) rounds (1) Hand Grenade (6) sets military equipments, (6) military Packs, (1) Binocular and some other stores.

On the same day, another of our force, attacked Myitta Plawko Tah and occupied the post. (1) enemy was killed, captured (1) G-2, (1) G-3 Rifle with (1220) rounds of ammos, (10) M-9A1 bombs, (4) packs and (4) equipment sets.

On 23.1.88 our troops attacked Myitta-Panadi inflicting (6) enemies killed and (5) wounded.

On 13.2.88, our troops attacked enemy at Pank Lawk Ku twice inflicting (5) enemies killed and (4) wounded.

No.5. Military Zone. Dooplaya District.

On 23.1.88, our troops ambushed enemy at Te Ni Mu Ta. (2) enemy trucks got destroyed inflicting (5) enemies killed and (8) wounded. Captured (1) Rifle with (100) rounds ammos.

On 31.1.88 conduct guerilla attacks on enemy near Mekane, inflicting (3) enemies killed and (1) wounded. Captured (1) G-2, (1) G-3 rifles with (10) magazines and (200) rounds ammos.

On 14.2.88, our joined bomb exploded at Klimulerklo, inflicting (5) enemies killed and (7) wounded.

On 15.2.88, our troops ambushed enemy between Ler-Say and Saypo. Fighting started at 1300 to 1630 hours, enemy suffered a total of (27) killed and (13) wounded. Captured (2) G-3 Rifles with (15) magazines and (310) rounds ammos.

On 16.2.88, attacked enemy at Akyu inflicting (2) enemies killed and (3) wounded.

On 18.2.88, attacked enemy at Hsawpra inflicting (3) enemies killed (7) wounded.

On 1.3.88, ambushed enemy near Htimoohta village (10) enemy dead bodies were left behind including Col, Commander 2 l/c Win Ag and Coy. Commander, Myakyaw, captured (1) Browning Pistol (1) G-2, (4) G-3, (1) G-4 Rifles with (36) G-3 magazines and (2167) rounds ammos, (1) M 79, (13) 81MM bombs (10) 60MM bombs, (1) charging sets,

(2) maps and some military equipments and stores.

On 2.3.88, attacked No.32 Inf. Bn. between Kyaik Don and Kaliki inflicting (10) enemies killed and (20) wounded.

On 16.3.88. fighting broke out between our troops and the enemies at Noe Po village inflicting (6) enemies killed and (8) wounded.

On 22.3.88. our troops attacked enemy at Pein-Ne Daw. Enemies fled after (20) minutes fighting. Captured (30) military Packs, (5) equipment sets, (1) radio, (3) hand grenades, (5000) rounds G-3, ammos, (173) Rifle rounds, (80) Sten rounds, and some other military equipments and stores. We destroyed (1) bridge.

On 23.3.88, enemy clearing the road hit our mine-bombs and was totally destroyed killing (1) Capt. (1) Lt, (1) sgt. and (18) other ranks- and destroyed also (1) 81 MM mortar (1) 60MM Mortar, (3) 79MM (4) G-3 Rifles (10) carbines (10) Walkie Talkies, and a large amount of 81/60MM bombs and other small arms ammos in the truck.

On 24.3.88. our troops attacked enemy at Kaw Kyet from 2100 to 2300 inflicting (4) enemies killed and (5) wounded.

No.6 Military Zone. Paan District.

On 7.1.88, enemy No.6 and No. 1 Inf. Bns attacked our posts at Hsawpa He and Kyawtwale. We bravely retaliated and inflicting (3) No.6 Inf. Bn killed and (16) wounded and (2) No.1 Inf. Bn. killed and (7) wounded.

On 8.1.88. Fighting broke out between the clearing enemy troops and our troops. Enemy suffered (11) wounded by our bullets and (1) wounded by our mine-bomb.

On 9.1.88, the enemy again tried to attack us but they suffered (2) killed and (7) wounded by our troops.

On 10.1.88, we shelled our Heavy weapons to the enemy posts, inflicting (4) No.6 Inf. Bn wounded, (3) No.3 Inf. Bn wdd and (1) No.1 Inf. Bn Wdd.

On 12.1.88, the enemies again attacked our posts at Hsawpahe. We retaliated and enemies left (5) dead bodies, including (2) N.C.O. and (17) wounded including (1) Coy Comdr. and (1) Coy 2 l/c. Our troops captured (1) carbine, with (4) magazines and (105) rounds ammos, (3) G-3 Rifles with (22) mags, and (4000) rounds, ammos and some military equipments.

On 15.1.88, enemy No.4 and No.6 Inf. Bn attacked our troops at Lay Po Klo Kyaw Wale. We retaliated and enemy suffered (6) kld. and (47) wdd, including (2) P/n, commanders we captured (1) G-4 Rifle.

On 16.1.88, No.4 and No.6. Inf. Bns attacked us again but suffered (2) killed and (17) wdd, On the same day (1) mily, truck hit our mine and was totally destroyed.

On 20.1.88, No.4 Inf. Bn attacked us at Laylo Ki and Tawokki, 'we retaliated, and enemy suffered (3) killed including (1) Colum Comdr and (29) wounded including (1) Col, Commander, also.

On 29.1.88, enemy attacking our post at Kyaw Wahle suffered (1) killed and (17) wdd. including (1) Col. Commander.

On 1.2.88 our combined troops attacked enemy No.2 Inf. Bn at Ger-Gaw inflicting (11) enemy killed and (6) wdd. Our troops captured (1) machine gun with (2) spare barrels and (1000) rounds ammos, (3) sten mags, (4) G-3 mags, (90) 60MM bombs (9) hand grenades, 7 military uniforms (6) ammunition boots (3) flags and a quantity of military equipments and stores.

On 13.2.88. (1) military transport truck hit our mine at 17 M.S, and was totally destroyed killing (2) and wounding (2) occupants.

On 14.2.88, we attacked enemy at Pawlata inflicting (2) enemy , and (7) wdd, we captured (1) G-2 Rifle. kld

On 15.2.88, we shelled enemy post at Pa Taw Taw inflicting enemy No.1 Inf, Bn (13) kld and (2) wdd. (6) enemies from No.4 Inf Bn.

No.4 Coy. deserted and ran away at Kyawwale front, (2) were kld by our mine bombs.

On 20.2.88 we attacked enemy at Tee Wakle ridge inflicting (2) enemy killed and (9) wdd.

On 24.2.88, (1) enemy transport truck hit our mine between Waklupu and Tadoketa, and was damaged. (2) enemies were kld and (5) wdd.

On 25.2.88 our troops ambushed enemy at Kwemuki inflicting (7) enemy wdd. Our mine bomb wounded (3) enemies from No.3 Inf. Bn.

On 29.2.88, our troops attacked enemy at Pa Got inflicting (3) enemies kld including (1) officer and (10) wdd.

On 1.3.88, our troops ambushed enemy between Pwaytawru and Nyamaraw inflicting (2) enemy kld and (7) wdd. (1) P/n. Commander got his one leg, severed. Our troops captured (1) G-4 rifle.

On 3.3.88, our troops attacked enemy at Melakatu inflicting (3) enemy kld, our troops captured (1) Carbine and (1) G-4 Rifle.

On 17.3.88 (1) enemy transport truck hit own mine between Metawe and Tapotpuday and was totally destroyed, (1) enemy was kld and (3) wdd.

On 10.3.88 ambushed enemy at No Tat Baw inflicting (3) enemy kld including (1) P/n. Commander.

On 23.3.88, ambushed enemy between No Pya and Yo To, inflicting (3) enemy kld and (1) wdd, Capt. (3) mily. packs and some mily. equipments

On 24.3.88, (1) P/n Commander and (1) sgt of enemy No.2 Inf, Bn got wdd, by our mine bomb near Tawok.

On 27.3.88. Destroyed (1) bridge between Kakyō and Kamako.

101 Special Battalion.

on 3.1.88, fighting at Hsawpahe, (2) enemy were killed, fighting again near Hsaw Pa He, (7) enemy were wdd.

On 5.1.88, fighting at Hsawpahe. No.2 Inf. Bn (4) wdd.

On 6.1.88, fighting at Hsawpahe enemy (5) wdd.

On 7.1.88, fighting at Hsawpahe.

No.1 Inf. Bn, (1) kld (8) wdd.

No.3 Inf. Bn, (8) wdd, (2) Hopeless.

No.6 Inf. Bn, (3) wdd, all hopeless.

On 8.1.88. Hsawpahe fighting.

No.6 Inf. Bn. (8) wdd.

No.3 Inf Bn (5) wdd.

On 9.1.88 Hsawpahe fighting

No.6 Inf. Bn (4) wdd,

No.3 Inf. Bn (4) wdd,

No.1 Inf. Bn (1)wdd.

On 12.1.88, KNLA troops and No. 1.3.6 Inf, Bns fought (10) times at Hsawpahe and Kyaw Wale. Enemy suffered (8) kld (9) wdd. KNLA captured (3) G-3. Rifles, (1) carbine (2) bombs.

On 14.1.88, enemy tried to clear the ground and suffered (2) kld and (9) wdd.

On 15.1.88, at Kyawwale fighting from 8 A.M. to 3 P.M. enemy suffered (7) Kld, (40) wdd,

On 16.1.88 at Hsawpahe fighting. Enemy suffered (3) kld (14) wdd including (1) Lt.

On 16.1.88 at 4:40 P.M. (1) enemy transport truck hit KNLA mine bomb, and was totally destroyed including all arms/ ammos in it.

On 20.1.88, from 1150 A.M. to 1800 fighting at Laypoki and Kyawwale. (3) enemy were kld including (1) Col. Commander and (21) Wdd. Including (1) officer. KNLA captured (1) carbine.

On 20.1.88, (1) enemy of No.9 Inf. Bn. shot himself, at Noh Kaw Ti.

On 13.2.88, attacked enemy at Waklu Pu. (7) enemy wdd. (1) enemy truck destroyed by our mine bomb, killing (2) enemies and wounding (1).

On 24.2.88, at 0700 hours, (1) truck hit KNLA mine between Waklupu and Thiwa killing (2) enemies and wounding (5) enemies.

On the same day (3) enemies were kld and (10) wdd, by KNLA (2) bombs at Wakliki.

No. 20 Battalion. Papun District.

On 10.1.88, ambushed enemy at Me Ta Ket Klo inflicting (3) enemies kld. Ambushed enemy near No Ki Ta, (4) enemies kld, including (1) Bn 2 1/2 Captured (1) G-4 Rifles with (200) rounds.

On 28.1.88, Ambushed enemy near Na Kot Ta inflicting (11) enemies kld and (14) wdd. Captured (1) G-3 and (1) G-4 Rifles, (22) magazines with (280) rounds ammos

On 29.2.88, (1) enemy of No.8 Inf, Bn surrendered with (1) G-3 to our troops.

On 18.3.88, attacked enemy near Le Po Plaw inflicting (3) enemy kld and (1) officer wdd.

On 24.3.88, at 9 P.M. attacked enemy at Kyawkalone, inflicting (4) enemies killed including (3) NCO and (3) wdd.

Tah Doh Wah Column.

On 5.1.88, our troops attacked enemy at Ker Gaw Kyo inflicting (2) enemies killed. Our troop captured (1) G-3 and (1) G-4 rifles.

On 2.2.88, ambushed enemy at Maw Kyawko inflicting (3) enemies killed. Our troop captured (2) G-3 (1) G-4 Rifles, with (18) magazines and (300) rounds ammos and (2) hand grenades

On 14.2.88, attacked enemy Hino truck at Ler Taw Day. The truck was totally destroyed. Another truck was ambushed on the same day at Takuperko. The truck was destroyed.

On 18.2.88, made guerilla attack on enemy at Kopigyi, inflicting (3) enemies kld and (3) wdd. Captured (1) G-2 rifle with (1) magazine and (30) rounds ammos.

On 28.2.88, attacked enemy at (3) places, namely, Mawkyawko, Mawkyawki and Ba Ler Pu. On these (3) attacks enemy suffered a total of (7) kld and (15) wdd, (3) seriously wdd died on the way before they arrived Kyawkkyi.

GHQ troops

From 1.1.88 to 15.2.88 (29) of our mine bombs exploded inflicting (15) enemies killed and (16) wounded.

On 17.1.88, our troops attacked enemy at Taler Toegita inflicting (3) enemies kld and (2) wdd.

On 25.1.88, (2) enemies were killed and (3) wounded by our joined bomb at Kyawketa.

On 17.2.88, ambushed enemy between Thablukla and Kwilay inflicting (4) enemies kld and (5) wdd.

On 3.3.88, Ambushed enemy between Laka Tu and Me-Tawaw inflicting (3) enemies kld. Captured (1) carbine and (1) G-4 Rifle.



President Gen. Bo Mya with central KWO touring team at Me La meeting.



Central KWO touring team at Mina An monastery.

NDF Battle News

K.I.A. (Kachin).

On 4-3-88 night one Column of K.I.A troops attacked Man Si, a town 20 miles East of Bhamo and occupied it for (4) hours. The K.I.A destroyed (1) police Station, (1) fire engine, (1) saw mill and some buildings. Enemy from No.47 and 98 Inf. Bns. suffered a total of 60 to 80 killed and wounded. The KIA captured over (50) small arms with ammos and some important documents.

On the same night, another KIA column attacked enemy No.47 Inf. Bn. at Man Yot- (8) miles east of Bhamo and occupied it. Many enemies were killed, many wounded and fled. The KIA captured (1) P.O.W. a number of arms and (180) boxes of opium belonging to the enemy officer. The KIA suffered a total of (18) casualties in the two battles. The KIA destroyed (1) bridge and some buildings.

On 4-3-88, a special force of KIA attacked (1) Coy. of enemy No.29th Bn. between Saing Law and Tha Ran-about (10) miles North-east of Myitkyina. Enemy suffered (25) killed. One truck was destroyed. Captured (3) P.O.Ws (4) small arms with ammos.

On 4-4-88, a combined force of KIA and CPB (101) Bn. commanded by Bo Thein Win ambushed enemy 16 Inf. Bn between Pway Tauk Yaw Law. Enemy suffered over (40) killed and the combined troops captured some arms, ammos, rations and military equipments.

Because of increased KIA military activities, enemy No.46 and 37 Inf.Bns. were withdrawn from KIA No.(1) Bde. area.

On 20-3-88, Cpl.Htay Aung and Private E Kyaw of enemy No.88 Inf. Bn surrendered to KIA No. 12 Bn With (2) G-4 rifles, (10) magazines and 375 rounds of ammos.

On 21-3-88, fighting broke out between one force of KIA and enemy No.46 Inf.Bn. The enemy fled after a short skirmish. The KIA captured (1) G-3 rifle with (285) rounds

ammos, (3) hand grenades, (3) 2 inch mortar bombs.

On 21-3-88, at 5 P.M. the KIA ambushed one column of enemy No.98 Inf. Bn. led by Lt. Col Sein Than at Lay Khun between Namkhan and Man Si. Enemy suffered (10) kld. and (10) wounded. The KIA captured (1) 81MM mortar, with (10) bombs. (1) 60MM mortar and (5) small arms with (5037) rounds ammos, (1) W/T set (1) Bty. charging set and a quantity of military equipments and some documents. The KIA suffered (4) slightly wounded.

On 21-3-88, some KIA militia combined with some PSLA (Palaung) troops attacked (1) enemy road construction unit and destroyed (1) Bull-dozer killing (2) enemies and wounding the driver

On 3-4-88, a combined force of KIA and CPB ambushed enemy No. 15 Inf Bn. from Lank Saung. Over (40) enemies were killed and wounded and KIA captured some arms, ammos and rations from the enemy.

On 3-4-88, one KIA force ambushed enemy No.29 Inf. Bn between Sai Baung and Sadon. (1) enemy truck was totally destroyed (25) enemies were killed. (1) officer wounded, captured (3) P.O.Ws.(11) small arms with ammos.

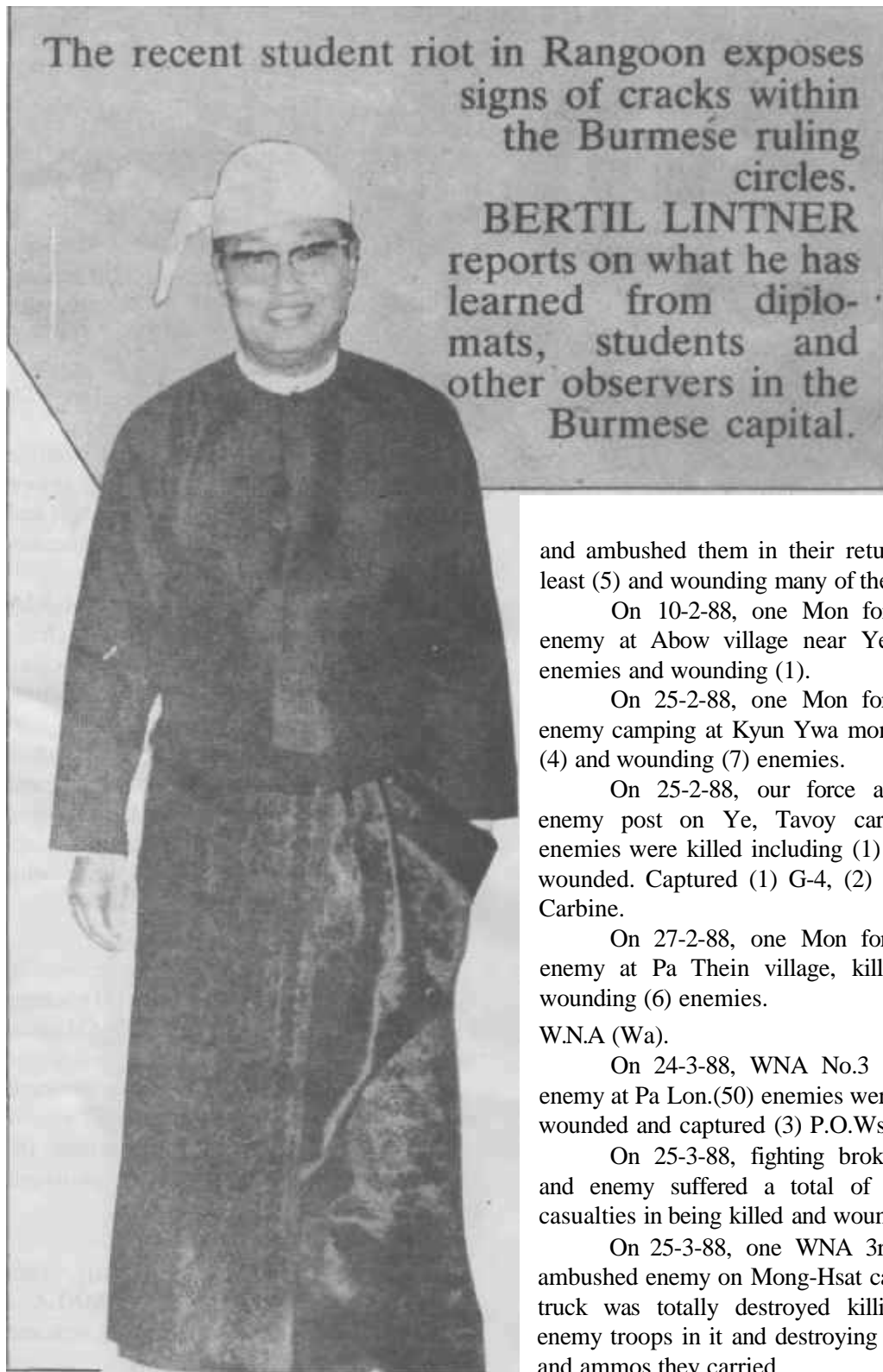
SSA. (Shan).

On 7.3.88, one SSA force ambushed enemy near Say Kun village killing (3) enemies including (1) 2nd, Lt. Captured (1) 9MM pistol from the enemy.

On 10-3-88, one SSA force attacked enemy militia post at Mong Yai. (4) enemy militia were killed. Captured (2) Carbines (8) rifles with (150) rounds ammos, destroyed enemy go-down stores and buildings.

MNLA (Mon).

In the first week of January, 1988 enemy 104 Bn attacked our HQ of MNLA at Ye Chaung Pya and the Mon troops attacked



The recent student riot in Rangoon exposes signs of cracks within the Burmese ruling circles.

BERTIL LINTNER reports on what he has learned from diplomats, students and other observers in the Burmese capital.

and ambushed them in their return killing at least (5) and wounding many of the enemies.

On 10-2-88, one Mon force attacked enemy at Abow village near Ye killing (2) enemies and wounding (1).

On 25-2-88, one Mon force attacked enemy camping at Kyun Ywa monastry killing (4) and wounding (7) enemies.

On 25-2-88, our force attacked one enemy post on Ye, Tavoy car Road. (4) enemies were killed including (1) sgt. and (1) wounded. Captured (1) G-4, (2) G-3 and (1) Carbine.

On 27-2-88, one Mon force attacked enemy at Pa Thein village, killing (1) and wounding (6) enemies.

W.N.A (Wa).

On 24-3-88, WNA No.3 Bn attacked enemy at Pa Lon.(50) enemies were killed (40) wounded and captured (3) P.O.Ws.

On 25-3-88, fighting broke out again and enemy suffered a total of about (100) casualties in being killed and wounded.

On 25-3-88, one WNA 3rd Bn. force ambushed enemy on Mong-Hsat car road, One truck was totally destroyed killing all (20) enemy troops in it and destroying all the arms and ammos they carried.



The Golden Hinth Seen at Mon National Day.



NDF leaders attending Mon National Day celebration.



NDF leaders (Right Front) at Mon National Day celebration.



NDF leaders on Mon National Day at Payathonzu.