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We, the Karens in Burma, have fought for national freedom for forty years now and can valiantly stand up against the enemy in all these years of firm patriotism of all those who have fought in the revolution and because of the unwavering support given by the people.

In order to regain our lost national freedom, the first prerequisite is unity. If our whole Karen nation is firmly united, our fight for freedom would not be difficult. A people with no freedom is belittled and oppressed. It is a great dignity for a people to have freedom. It is now time for all the Karens at home and abroad to unite and make greater effort for the freedom of their nation.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Karen revolution, I wish all the Karens to have courage, endurance, honesty and be true to their nation in every way.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely of Gen. Bo Mya, written on a white background.

GEN. BO MYA
PRESIDENT
KAREN NATIONAL UNION

EDITORIAL

FORTY YEARS MARCH AND FINAL VICTORY

The Karen revolution has pushed past now the fortieth year of its struggle. It has been a long, complicated and vehement passage, a journey paved with the life-blood of many thousands of heroes. In the long history of Karen people, there has never been a record of such a long and valiant struggle.

The history of 40 years of Karen revolution is the history of the Karens controlling their own destiny, the firm and correct leadership of the KNU, the holding fast to the principle of armed struggle, the establishment of alliances on solid foundation, the mobilization of the support of the entire people with reliance on the strength and intellect of all the indigenous peoples, and the establishment of the national unity of Karen people with perseverance. Accordingly, the 40 years of Karen revolution is an illustrious and most honourable period in the history of the Karen people.

The intensive contest of arms waged by the Karen revolution in the 40 years has led to the isolation of Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique internally as well as externally. The political forces opposing the clique multiplied, in number and, more over, these forces have come to unite. The military clique is now facing the problems of shortage of fund for its war effort, low morale of its troops and heavy losses in the battle fields. In the field of economy, it is facing the insurmountable problem of the escalating deterioration of the whole economy. These problems have come about as a direct consequence of the revolutionary movements in all parts of the country and the uprising of the entire people. In the revolutionary movement the Karen revolution has assumed a special role and the fact

that the forty-year struggle of the Karen revolution has dealt a telling blow to the enemy cannot be overlooked.

After the passage of 40 years, the Karen revolution has become more and more strengthened politically, militarily and morally. It has gained more and more support internally as well as externally. It can cooperate more and more closely with the growing forces of revolution and allies. At present, the Karen revolution, led by KNU, is endeavouring for the complete overthrow of the common enemy, Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique, by actively participating and shouldering important duties in the alliances of the National Democratic Front (NDF) and the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB).

The attainment of 40 years of age by the Karen revolution led by KNU, the strengthening of NDF politically, militarily and organizationally after a passage over 12 years period, the successful formation of 23 anti-Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique group into DAB, the entrapment of the common enemy, Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique in general crises, the general uprising of the people in the country, the suspension of assistance to Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique and the lukewarm relation maintained by foreign countries, the growing external support for the revolutionary forces and the people, and the emergence and the existence legally of many political parties opposed to Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique are developments indicating that circumstances for final victory are getting nearer to being complete for the revolutionary forces.

When we look back on the 40 years journey, we can clearly see protractedness, complexity and intensi-

ty. There is no doubt that more than in the 40 years, the remaining journey to victory which is at hand, will be full of complexity and intensity. It is certain that the journey ahead will be more momentous and difficult. Whatever the difficulties may be, if we are able to:-

(1) Firmly control our own political destiny :

(2) Firmly establish the leadership of KNU;

(3) Hold fast to the principle of armed struggle;

(4) Cooperate more closely with the increasing number of allies;

(5) Raise and maintain national unity;

(6) Acquire the support of our own people and the people in general, and mobilize their intellect and strength; and

(7) Fight on with greater determination , effort , foresight , sacrifice and enterprise ;

We shall undoubtedly be able to overthrow, in no time, the common enemy, Ne Win-Saw Maung clique, which is deep in crisis, and clinch the greatest victory in the history of the Karen people. Accordingly, it is now our most important duty to march on, from 40 years of struggle, to final victory with greater determination , perseverance and effort.



SAW BA U GYI'S POUR PRINCIPLES

- * FOR US SURRENDER IS OUT OF QUESTION.
- * WE SHALL RETAIN OUR ARMS.
- * THE RECOGNITION OF KAREN STATE MUST BE COMPLETE.
- * WE SHALL DECIDE OUR OWN POLITICAL DESTINY.

After independence, the Karens continued their movement for national rights peacefully . Rangoon government started to suppress with arms. As a result, the Karen armed revolution emerged. When faced with defeat, the government initiated peace talk. While Karen leaders were in Rangoon and cease-fire was in effect, the government played for time and moved its troops freely to strategic places. Then it insisted on surrender of the Karen forces. Because of this trickery, the above four principles were laid down.



Bereavement

The staff members of the KNU Bulletin are much bereaved by the passing away of the Chief Editor, Poo Sgaw Ler Taw, on March 7, 1989.

We would like to offer our deepest condolences to Pee Sgaw and the family members.



Staff Members
KNU Bulletin



PRESIDENT GENERAL BO MYA'S SPEECH AT 40th ANNIVERSARY

DAY CELEBRATION OF KAREN REVOLUTION

It is a great honour for me to have the opportunity to speak to you on the 40th Anniversary Day of Karen revolution. The Karens have existed and will go on to exist as a nation, and Karen revolution has existed up to now because of the resolute and united resistance of the Karen army and the national leaders together with the whole Karen nation and the majority of the people in the country, against the oppressive rule of Burmese chauvinists, in all the 40 years of Karen revolution.

We, the Karen people, have a disposition to be kind, honest, hold all fellow being in respect and confidence, and like to have harmony, and love to live peacefully. However, we had to take up arms and begin armed revolution, because there was no other way for us to regain our national rights and freedom under the unjust and tyrannical rule of Burmese chauvinists. As the chauvinist rulers are recognised as a government by many countries, they have received aid from international sources. However much international aid is received, the governments that have followed the policy of chauvinism have fallen one after another, due to the valiant and determined struggle of our Karen National Liberation Army and people. As the Karen National Liberation Army bears correct political conviction and view, it will continue to fight vigorously as long as there is an evil government and until the Karen people are liberated. There shall not be any thought of surrender or relaxation. For the establishment of genuine federal union and permanent peace, the Karen revolution will carry on its struggle until the military clique upholding dictatorship and chauvinism is overthrown.

We the Karens must unite in all our endeavours in order to defeat our evil enemy, the dictatorial government. Accordingly let us have unity in our:-

- (1) Political conviction and work;
- (2) Face to face fight against the enemy;
- (3) Obedience to laws and rules for discipline;
- (4). Effort to raise our social and living standards.

Among the Karens and people in general, there are various religions beliefs. According to our political belief there must be freedom for all religions and it is important for members of different religions to have respect for one another and maintain unity. If we, the Karens, and the people in Burma as a whole fight on unitedly, the oppressive, chauvinist government shall definitely be defeated.

The Karen National Union has led the Karen revolution with courage, determination and perseverance for 40 years now. It is now more important than ever for all the Karens to accept the leadership of GNU wholeheartedly. You will certainly be liberated from the oppressive rule of Burmese chauvinists, if you effectively accept the leadership of GNU and if you are united. It is necessary for you to understand that the Karen National Union and Karen National Liberation Army are fighting for the liberation of the whole people in the country. In conclusion, I would like to pledge that GNU and Karen National Liberation Army led by GNU, will carry on the struggle until the total destruction of the ruling chauvinists, who have been our national enemy.

* Karen National Revolution shall definitely triumph!

* Chauvinist Saw Maung military clique shall definitely fall!

CALUMNY SPREAD BY THE MILITARY CLIQUE

At recent press conferences, first Secretary Khin Nyunt of Law and Order Restoration Council, started to accuse the KNU of being stooges of imperialism. "The KNU, receiving a favourable coverage in imperialist press," he would assert, "is clear that they are stooges of imperialists."

This is a clumsy and shameless attempt by Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique to mislead the people in Burma who have rarely been given a chance to know the real situation prevailing in the country.

By false accusations of KNU as foreign stooges, the clique is apparently hoping to gain the support of the people whom it has antagonized by brutal suppression of their movement for democracy. Khin Nyunt, as well as all the clique members, knows very well that the KNU has never received assistance from any foreign source or been an agent of a foreign power in all the 40 years of its struggle for freedom and democracy.

On the 44th anniversary of Armed Forces Day, Saw Maung, chairman of Law and Order Restoration Council, in his speech to the armed forces personnel, emphasize again the importance of annihilating KNU by saying, "the vital task at present for us is defence of the country and the early annihilation the KNU foreign stooges,"

Before the armed revolution, the Karen leaders submitted the demands of the Karen people for their national rights to the head of Burmese government, Premier U Nu. Without any serious consideration, U Nu started to accuse that the demands were simply the work of a few Karen leaders motivated by imperialists.

To disprove the accusations of U Nu, more than 400,000 Karens staged quiet demonstrations on February 11, 1948 in various towns and cities. In spite of this, U Nu



Seeing the reorganized KNU leaders
after the Plawmu meeting, 1965

obstinately refused to attach any importance to the Karens' demands and started armed suppression of the Karen people. The result has been the civil war that has dragged on for more than 40 years now.

After forty years, again the KNU has to face similar accusations as being foreign stooges.

In the past 40 years, the revolutionary forces have not only successfully formed the National Democratic Front (NDF) of the eleven national groups but they have also successfully formed a broader alliance, the Democratic Alliance of Burma, which includes the eleven national organization of NDF, the Union of Young Monks, the All Burma Students' Democratic Front and the democratic organizations of Burmese expatriates. There is no doubt that the people can judge correctly whether these forces are the stooges of imperialists or not.

Whatever the trickery and calumny the military clique uses, the shameless attempt to shore up its crumbling position and its attempt to escalate the civil war for the benefit a small group of militarymen are bound to fail totally, in the end.

SAVE BURMA'S FORESTS

THE LAST GREEN PLACE



The Asian mainland's largest intact tropical forest area is in grave danger as a war rages over Burmese teak wood.

Thailand's forests have been decimated to the point of no return, at a rate of 3% each year. The areas of Burma under control of the Burmese military government have also been severely deforested. In 1984, National Geographic magazine estimated that the destruction of Burma's forests was "spreading at a rate of 250,000 acres a year", that the government Timber Corporation was cutting 540,000 tons per year, and that marketable teakwood from government controlled areas would be depleted in ten years.

In contrast, much of Burma's frontier areas remain forested, with deciduous teak forests in the mountains and "monsoon forest" in the south, home to such wildlife as hornbills, tapirs, rhinoceros and wild elephants. This is largely because of a 40 year ethnic minority rebellion which has prevented Burmese government access to the timber. Rebel run logging operations have been comparatively small scale.

Following November 1988's disastrous floods in deforested southern Thailand, the Thai government banned all logging nationwide. This was followed by a rush by Thai military/business figures to make timber deals with counterparts in previously isolationist neighbors such as Laos and Burma. Political issues and human rights considerations have been subordinated to the desire to profit from new timber concessions. The Burmese junta, in dire need of

foreign exchange to purchase the ammunition essential to the maintenance of its privileged lifestyle, has sought desperately to fulfill its commitments in bringing hardwood to the Thai purchasers.

U Nu, the last freely elected leader of Burma, recently commented, "We have had forestry conservation since the British were here, but (now) there is no provision for it, Our forests will disappear." (February 8, 1989)

THE TEAK WAR

In the north, the Burmese government reportedly has made arrangements with favored drug warlords including the notorious "heroin king" Khun Sa, for transport of logs through their territory. Trading firms are said to commonly be involved in both commodities: narcotics and wood.

In the south, although some insurgent leaders are cooperating in increased logging for Thai firms, tribal rebels have vowed to attack Burmese logging and log transport operations. Pierce battles are being fought as the Burmese army attacks the Karen tribe's region along the Thai border, in an effort to claim timber and force logging roads through.

Burmese military operations in the frontier areas are characterized by human rights abuse including forced labor, torture and destruction of entire villages (as documented by Amnesty International, Anti-Slavery Society, and other organizations). The Teak War has

THE MAJOR OBSTACLE

TO PEACE IN BURMA

Burma is a country inhabited and owned by various ethnic nationals such as Arakanese, Burman, Chin, Kachin, Karen, Karenni, Mon, Shan, and etc. The country has enough space for all its 40 million population to settle down and ample resources to be shared among the nationalities for common benefits and the construction of a prosperous country based on the four great freedoms, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from fear and freedom from want.

Burma history records that the Burman ruling class see themselves as the privileged and superior sect the "Ashin-Thakin" - the living master and the others as their inferiors the "Kyun-Myoe" - the slaves. The kingdoms of Mon, Arakanese, Shan, and even Thai, were on many occasions in history mercilessly subjugated by the Burman kings. The Kachin, Karen, and Karenni were persecuted, forced laboured, with the result that these people had to abandon their cities and villages in the plains and fled to deep jun-

brought this devastation deep into the forest home of the indigenous tribes. For the hasty profit of military elites, Burma's magnificent forests may very soon become a thing of the past.



PROJECT MAJE
APRIL 1989

gles and high mountain to be able to live in peace. It had become a tradition among the Chin national, to tattoo the face of their women folks black, to look ugly, to escape the harlems of the Burman kings and lords.

The era of British Rule of Burma from 1825 till the outbreak of the Second World War, helped restore the national identity to the various nationals of the country. However, when the British left these people to the mercy of the Burman ruling class by granting independence to Burma in 1948 with no whatsoever guarantee to the ethnic nationals, the oppression and persecution on the people once again restarted, more systematic and more damaging. This has prompted many ethnic nationals to request from the Burman for racial equality, self-determination and peaceful coexistence. Replying to the Karens's demand on these points, U Nu, the then prime minister of Burma, said "Whenever had the Karen a country? If you want a country fight for it." This most crude attitude of U Nu, who along with General Ne Win plotted the murder of General Aung Sann, who according to them was too pro minorities and hence the danger of splattered Burma, (General Aung Sann together with his cabinet members were murdered on 19 July, 1947 during a cabinet meeting), forced the Karen, together with the Mon and Pa-Oh to arms revolution which began on 31 January 1949. They were followed by other ethnic nationals, Kachin Shan, Arakanese and Chin.

Operating under the cloak of "anti-insurgency" the Burman soldiers went on killing spree in the



40-year veterans of Karen revolution seen during the ceremony honouring the veterans, at KNU Headquarters.

ethnic races territories. The number of people murdered, the villages burnt to the ground, properties looted, women raped could never be known. But the innocent people that were murdered by the barbaric Burman army numbered not less than 300,000. These killing, raping, looting and other atrocities committed by the Burman ruling class and its pocket army at the remote areas of the country, unknown and uncared by the world, spread to Rangoon and other cities of Burma when hundreds of students, monks and other pro-democracy innocent people were killed mercilessly by the Burman ruling class.

Throughout its 41 years of arms struggle, the Karen National Union, (KNU), has never closed the door to a peaceful settlement to the civil war. It had never been the desire of the KNU that a racial strife would exist between the Karen and the Burman. At the 1948 peaceful and silent demonstration in Rangoon by 400,000 Karen nationals, one of the four slogans was

"We do not want racial strife", an expression of the desire of peaceful coexistence. Having this principle in mind, the KNU on three occasions sincerely went to the

negotiation/table face to face with the Burman for the ending of the civil war. These negotiations failed badly. On all the three negotiations, instead of talking a peaceful coexistence, the construction of a prosperous country and giving the people of the country a meaningful life, the ruling class demanded the unrealistic and unacceptable of unconditional surrender. Other ethnic nationals who are in war with the Burmans had also had peace talks with the Burman. But all those talks also failed because they were dealt with as the same as the Karen.

The Burman ruling class has not changed their stand on a peaceful solution of the conflicts in Burma, and it is doubtful they will ever change. Two years ago, boasting in front of Foreign Military Attaches and foreign reporters, Colonel Khin Nyunt (now a brigadier general) said that the nationalist movements of the Karen, Kachin, the Shan and others would be wiped out within two years. Brigadier Khin Nyunt is now one of the most powerful and ruthless person in Rangoon. His position is much secured with his adulterous married to Dr. Sandar Win, the daughter of General Ne Win. In fact, these three, "the group of

KAREN REVOLUTION 40th ANNIVERSARY DAY STATEMENT

1. After the independence of Burma, the Karen people, in their movement for national freedom, staged peaceful demonstrations on February 11, 1948, in the best tradition of democracy, with the slogans : -

- (a) Give Karen State At Once!
- (b) Show Karen One Kyat, Burmese One Kyat At Once!
- (c) We Don't Want Communal Strife!
- (d) We Don't Want Civil War!

These slogans in essence signified the aspirations of the Karen for:-

- (1) National rights,
- (2) Democratic rights,
- (3) Friendship and unity of all nationalities and
- (4) Internal peace.

However, the ruling AFPFL government, in addition to ignoring the rightful demands, oppressed and killed the Karen people by using Burma army led by He Win. It is a widely known fact that when it became eventually unavoidable, the Karen had to take up whatever arms available on January 31, 1949, for national survival and rights.

2. On March 2, 1962, the military seized power from AFPFL government and set up one party BSPP dictatorship, imposing an oppressive rule over the whole country. The oppressive rule of BSPP dictatorship led to the escalation of civil war to the highest degree and problems cropped up on all

three", are the main power in Rangoon today. A few months after announcing that nationalist movements would be wiped out completely within two years, the group of three ordered the murdered of hundreds of students, monks and other prodemocracy demonstrators in Rangoon and other towns of Burma.

Recently, responding to Senator Patrick Moynihan, statement that the military regime should seek a peaceful solution to the civil war by holding negotiation with the nationalist groups, the authority, through its "Working Peoples's Daily", the only news paper in circulation in the country, shamelessly critized the senator's statement and went to the extent of indirectly saying that no civil war exist in the country. With all the indigenous races of the country, including Burma, as well as students and monks are in conflicts with the military, how can one shamelessly

lies that a civil war does not exist? Fighting between the military regime and the anti-military regime forces is taking place along Burma Thailand border almost tally since last November. During this time more than four thousand soldiers from the Burma army had been killed or wounded. The military regime is using one million dollars daily in shelling Karen camps. The news is being covered internationally. Yet, Khin Nyunt denies the existence of any civil war.

The Burman ruling class is the major obstacle to peace in Burma. Accessary obstacles are countries and powers that are selling arms and ammunitions to the military regime.

sides in the country which was finally reduced to one of the poorest in the world. At present, Saw Maung military clique is ruling the country arbitrarily by military dictatorship. Due to the brutal suppression of democratic movement by torture and mass-killing, thousands of students, youths, monks and civilians, anti-Saw Maung military clique and pro-democracy forces have arrived in KNU areas.

Consequently, the need to form a united effort of all the anti-Saw Maung military clique and pro-democracy forces against the common enemy arose. Accordingly, Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) was formed on November 14, 1988, under the aegis of NDF. Composed of 23 organizations of national revolutionary forces, anti-Saw Maung military clique and democratic forces inside and outside of the country, students and monks, the DAB is determined to fight on resolutely for the overthrow of Saw Maung military clique, the emergence of democracy, the establishment of internal peace and the formation of a genuine federal union. It is to mobilize all its resources not only for military activities but also for political, social and organizing activities.

3. Due to dwindling internal and external support, Saw Maung military clique has to finally talk about holding an election and allow political parties to register. At present, there are more than 230 parties.

On account of such political and military situation of Burma today, Karen National Union will continue the struggle hand in hand with students, youths, monks and the whole people according to the following action plan, until the downfall of Saw Maung military clique.

(a) To fight on with utmost vigour in accordance with the actions plans of National Democratic Front (NDF) and Democratic Alliance of Burma;

(b) To fight on ceaselessly, hand in hand with All Burma Students Democratic Front, for the overthrow of Saw Maung military clique and for total democracy;

(c) To fight on in coordinated effort with mass and class based groups?



President Gen. Bo Mya giving speech at the Conference Forming Central Karen Youth Organization at KNU Headquarters.

EXCERPTS FROM PRESIDENT SAW BA U GYI'S LAST SPEECH

The speech was given on July 17; 1950 at Papun Congress which, in addition to the attendance of representatives from Eastern Division, Irrawaddy Division and all the districts, was attended by Mon, Karennis and Pao National leaders. Not long after this speech, President Saw Ba U Gyi died honorably on August 12, 1950 for his Karen nation, fighting the enemy which had completely surrounded him and his small party. Consequently, this speech be regarded as his last will and testament. Ed's note.)

* The Karen revolution shall be the first as well as the last in the history of Karen people.

* There shall be no defeat for the revolution unless all the Karen revolutionaries went down to Rangoon

and put their necks on the chopping block in front of the enemy.

* A national state for the Karens can be gained in three different ways:-

(1) As a voluntary gift given, in good-will, by the enemy. We can always be sure that the enemy will never give us a country, a state, in good-will. So this possibility must be ruled out.

(2) By right of military conquest.

The Karen revolution, being a just revolution, shall eventually be victorious. However, the struggle will be long, difficult arduous, painful and distressing. Many lives will be lost.

(3) By force of circumstances.

After a long war, the enemy could get into quagmire of unending

and other anti-Saw Maung military clique groups, while prosecuting armed contest, as it is the main form of struggle of the present time;

(d) To organize all the anti-Saw Maung military clique forces and fight for the holding of election under an "interim government", as any election organized by Saw Maung military clique can never be democratic; and

(e) To firmly abide by and act in pursuant to the resolution by boycott any election which is not held under the supervision of an interim government, as participation in an election under the arrangement of Saw Maung military clique would only plunge the whole people into the sea of misery again.

4. The above-mentioned action plan sums up the position of KNU. The democratic forces inside and outside of the country are opposing Saw Maung military clique on account of its cruelty and wanton killings. Similarly, major countries of the world are showing their displeasure by cutting off aid given to Burma. Such a course of action and policy are correct, just, and natural. As it is also a normal and systematic stand for democracy and human rights, KNU would like to express Its gretitude and acoord recognition to the forces and countries concerned, on the accasion of 40th anniversary of Karen revolution. And since KNU and anti-Saw Maung military clique forces will unitedly fight for the flourishment of true democracy and human rights in Burma in the future as well, internal political, humanitarian and religious organizations as well as foreign governments and humanitarian organizations are appealed to render sympathy and viable assistances.

January 31, 1989

Central Standing Committee

Karen National Union

crisis. However hard the enemy tried he would get deeper into the quagmire. That is the time when the force of circumstances will most favourable for us. At that time, we must not fail to grasp the opportunities presented themselves and, by military and political means, force our will upon the enemy.

The strength of the revolution comes from the people. Therefore, to get the people's support, we must win the people's love, confidence and respect.

In order to win the people's love, we must first give our love show our love, to them.

In order to win the confidence of the people, we must build up and consolidate our force.

In order to win the respect of the people, we must be well disciplined and organised. We are bound to make mistakes in the performance of work, in the review of our revolution which is more than a year old now, I find that there have been the weaknesses and mistakes of self-conceitedness, putting self-interest in the forefront, indiscipline, anti-mass attitude, loose unity. We always need to review our past work and correct our weaknesses and errors boldly.

in history, we find that in spite

of various difficulties and hardship, all the just revolutions, when led with perseverance and courage, eventually triumph without exception.

I firmly believe that the just revolution of the Karen people shall be victorious, eventually, in spite of all the hardships and difficulties.

The Karen Nation Union has led the Karen revolution with courage, determination and perseverance for 40 years now. It is now more important than ever for all the Karens to accept the leadership of KNU wholeheartedly. You will certainly be liberated from the oppressive rule of Burmese chauvinists, if you effectively accept the leadership of KNU and if you are united. It is necessary for you to understand that the Karen National Union and Karen National Liberation Army are fighting for the liberation of the whole people in the country. In conclusion I would like to pledge that KNU and Karen National Liberation Army led by KNU, will carry on the struggle until the total destruction of the ruling chauvinists, who have been our national enemy.

* Karen National Revolution shall definitely triumph!

Chauvinist Saw Maung military clique shall definitely fall!



DAB units at graduation ceremony after completing commando training course.

GRANDFATHER SGAW LER TAW

The eldest son of Saw Shwe Pi, Grandfather Sgaw Ler Taw, was born as Saw Taw Yay on May 15, 1915, in Kyauk Pya village of Kyaukyi Township. Though from a poor family of hill Karens, he managed to graduate from Judson College, through diligence and determination at the age of 23, acquiring a Bachelor of Arts degree. To finance his own further education, he worked as a high school teacher at the American Baptist Mission School of Tharawaddy town for a year. After 2 years of study, he was awarded the Bachelor of Education degree in 1941. In the same year while teaching at the same school, Saw Taw Yay married a school teacher by the name of Naw Connie, to become a family man.

When WW II reached Burma in 1942, he returned to his native place and at the beginning of anti-Facist re-



After gaining
Bachelor of Education Degree.

sistance, he joined the Spider Unit of Force 136 organised by the British to harass the Japanese Army in the rear areas. After the war, he was appointed as the principal of Tharawaddy ABM High School.

The British government agreed to give independence to Burma in 1949 according to Nu-Atlee's arrangement for self-determination of the Karen people in the agreement, the entire Karen people rose up under the leadership of the Karen National Union led by Saw Ba U Gyi to protest. At that time, Saw Taw Yay contacted KNU Headquarters and became actively involved in the movement.

The Karen revolution led by KNU started when the AFPFL government, relying on force, used its troops to attack KNU Headquarters in Insein on January 31, 1949. At that time the



in Rangoon to attend peace talk
with Rangoon government.



Forty seventh wedding anniversary

GNU central leaders to take charge of the Irrawaddy delta region were Kawkasa Saw Hunter and Mahn Ba Zan while President Saw Ba U Gyi and General Sankey were in charge of Eastern Kawthoolei including Toungoo district. When General Sankey led the second delegation to Eastern Yoma, Saw Taw Yay, who had now adopted the new name of Sgaw Ler Taw, was in it as one of the hard core and to serve as a representative of the Delta in the East.

When President Saw Ba U Gyi and Gen. Sankey were killed on August 12, 1950, Sgaw Ler Taw had to serve as the interim president of GNU before the arrival of the new president, Kawkasa Saw Hunter, who was a way in the Delta at the time.

When Kawkasa arrived in Eastern Kawthoolei, the Karen Revolutionary Council (KRC) was formed as a governmental body under GNU. Sgaw Ler Taw was elected to serve as the secretary general of the body. He put his heart and soul into all the political, organizing and admini-

strative activities as well as in the activities of alliance and for the progress of alliance. He was a member of Three-Party Delegation led by GNU President, Mahn Ba Za, to 1963 peace talk.

When foundation for national unity was laid in 197b, Grand-father Sgaw Ler Taw was elected to serve as a member of the GNU Central Executive Committee, and Minister for Fisheries & Panning. At the same time, he took on the work of Organizing and Information Department and also served as the chief editor of Thanutoo Journal and the GNU Bulletin. He served in these positions until the time of his death.

The noble qualities that commanded respect and endearment for him were his endurance of hardships, love of study, keen memory, humility, steadiness, orderliness, perseverance and his unending patience for the unity of all nationalities, the consolidation and progress of the national alliance and the benefit of the revolution.

There is no doubt that the exemplary tradition set by a veteran revolutionary, who was Grand-father Sgaw, will be followed by Karen revolutionary fighters and leaders until final victory is achieved.



Last photo taken at family gathering

JOINT STATEMENT OF KAREN NATIONAL UNION AND NEW MON STATE PARTY CENTRAL LEADERS MEETING

Karen National Union (KNU) and New Mon State Party (NMSP) have joined hands together in friendship, like brothers and as good comrades, ever since the time before revolution and throughout the 40 years of revolutionary struggle.

It is not a secret that, a deplorable state of armed conflict between Karen National Union and New Mon State Party broke out on July 23, 1988. On account of it, thousands of Karen as well as Mon civilians were plunged into great affliction, causing much distress to leaders on both sides, the revolutionary allies and all the Democratic forces opposing Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique inside and outside of the country. On the other hand, our common enemy, Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique was much delighted by Mon-Karen deadlock and had tried its best to widen and manipulate it for shoring up its rule of military dictatorship.

In the interest of Mon And Karen People and revolution, in conformity with the wishes of allies in revolution and democratic forces inside and outside of the country which are opposing Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique, Karen National Union and New Mon State Party leaders successfully put into effect a cease-fire on August 23, 1988. After the cease-fire, as ceaseless efforts were made, stage after stage, to regain the unity and friendship that had existed at the beginning of Mon-Karen revolution, a basic agreement was reached on May 8, 1989.

This was a great achievement serving the interest of Mon-Karen revolution, the oppressed nationalities in the whole country, the oppressed populace and democratic forces inside and outside of the country and, at the same time, a great blow to Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique.

Since the conflict that had taken place between New Mon State Party and Karen National Union, was inconsistent with the interest of the people and revolution, and served the interest of Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique, every effort was made to stop it. As a result, the two sides have now every effort was made to stop it. As a result, the two sides have now succeeded in terminating it because of the farsightedness and magnanimity of the top leaders on both sides, and the good offices of National Democratic Front (NDF). This is a great victory for Mon-Karen revolution and the revolution in Burma. We, the leaders on both sides, affirm to seriously accord recognition and implement this agreement which will remain as a lasting and noble heritage until the times of posterity for the Mon and Karen people, Mon-Karen revolution and the revolution in Burma.

Sd/ (General Bo Mya)
President
Karen National Union
May 8, 1989

Sd/ (Nai Shwe Kyin)
Chairman
New Mon State Party

DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE OF BURMA

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

STATEMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE OF BURMA CONCERNING THE PROPOSED PEACE TALKS

Venerable Monks and Fellow Citizens:

The following statement is being made in order to clarify and inform you of the true developments concerning the rejection on May 26th, 1989, by the Saw Maung military junta of the offer of mediation between the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) and the junta by its neighbor Thailand.

The DAB is composed of democratic, religious, expatriate, and student organizations who together resolutely oppose the Ne Win/Saw Maung military junta. We want to assure you that the Alliance will continue to fight with determination until the downfall of dictatorial militarism in Burma. Moreover, the DAB will pursue its objective of creating a peaceful and prosperous Federal Union.

The Ne Win/Saw Maung military regime seized state power and has ruled as a military dictatorship with the intention of suppressing the equality and freedom of the ethnic nationalities. Because of this system, the nationalities, including the Burmans, have been trampled under Burmese military jackboots resulting in the total denial of all human and democratic rights. Due to the severe oppression of the military regime and its cohorts, the party and council members, a spontaneous general uprising broke out when the students, monks, and the entire people could bear oppression no longer. The military regime does not want to relinquish its power and privileges which it has gained and enjoyed for 26 years but instead has desperately clung to power by killing thousands of demonstrating students, monks, and civilians. We do not believe it is in the nature of such powermongers to ever voluntarily transfer power to the people.

The Thai leadership initiated a mediation effort for peace talks between the military junta and the democratic forces in the DAB in line with Thailand's policy of turning the Southeast Asia's war zones into economic zones with the view to benefitting the future well-being of Burma. The DAB leadership accepted the Thai offer to mediate peace talks, especially since the policy of the DAB is to resolve political problems by political means whenever possible. If such talks did take place, it was the intention of the DAB to give priority to the people's strong yearning for democratic rights and for calling for the formation of an interim government. However, the Ne Win/Saw Maung military junta, which had dared to slaughter thousands of innocent students, monks, and citizens when the people's protests affected their monopoly on power, arrogantly rejected the Thai offer of mediation for peace without much consideration. This is clear evidence of the war-

mongering nature of the Rangoon military Junta. Moreover, it is a brazen insult to the goodwill of the Thai leaders who had offered to mediate for peace and regional development. Therefore, the DAB concludes that it is impossible for the military junta to enter into negotiations with the opposition for the sake of internal peace nor do we believe that they will allow free and fair multi-party elections.

The DAB cannot accept the idea of holding peace talks inside the country or without a third-party mediator because past peace negotiations with the Rangoon military regime resulted in a deadlock or failure because of Rangoon's demand for unilateral surrender of arms, the manipulation of facts for propaganda rather than presenting the views to the people correctly, and attempts to interdict the peace delegates on their way home.

If the military junta cannot rescind the oppressive edicts and regulations as demanded by the democratic forces in the urban centers, internal peace and democratic rights can never be obtained through negotiation. In addition, it appears the Ne Win/Saw Maung clique is desperately trying to salvage its political bankruptcy by military adventures against the democratic forces. It is now evident that they are using their troops as sacrificial lambs and are forcefully subjecting them to the influence of psycho-active mind-controlling drugs and alcohol during their assaults against the democratic strongholds.

We, the armed resistance, firmly endeavor to solve political problems and differences, which are the root causes of the civil war, by political means. However, because of the refusal of the successive Rangoon military regimes to solve political problems by political means, the civil war has dragged on for forty long years.

Even if the Rangoon military junta rejects negotiations as a peaceful alternative to solving Burma's political crisis, we, the DAB, will take whatever alternative is left and continue to fight on by whatever means necessary to achieve our political aims and objectives.

Therefore, the DAB affirms that it will continue to struggle on, hand-in-hand with all the people as well as all other political forces ready to join hands with us until the following political objectives are realized:

- a. The abolishment of the one-party dictatorial system.
- b. The restoration of full democratic rights to the people.
- c. The cessation of civil war and the establishment of internal peace.
- d. The formation of a genuine Federal Union.

June 1st, 1989

Central Executive Committee
Democratic Alliance of Burma

**SEN. MOYNIHAN URGES THAT BURMA BE BROUGHT BEFORE
U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

SENATOR DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN (NEW YORK) , joined by Senator Claiborne Pell (D. - R.I.), Richard Lugar (R. - Ind.), Alan Cranston (D. - Cal.), Rudy Boschwitz (R . Minn.), Paul Simon (D. - Ill.), Carl Levin (D. - Mich.), and Edward Kennedy (D.-Mass.), wrote to Assistant Secretary of State Richard Schifter, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Williamson and Armando Valladeres, Chairman of the U.S. Delegation, urging the consideration of Burma at the Human Rights Commission.

On August 11, 1988, the Senate unanimously approved a resolution, introduced by Sen. Moynihan, that condemned the military government of Burma for its continuing human rights violations. In September , the State Department suspended all U.S. assistance to Burma.

Last summer, the Burmese military violently suppressed pro-democracy demonstrations . Over 3,000 civilians were killed by troops , who fired into crowds with machine guns, recoilless rifles, and mortars. Over 6,000 civilians, escaping from the violence, have fled to the Thai/Burmese border.

For the past 40 years, the Burmese military has waged a civil war against various ethnic minority in surgent groups who control Burma's frontiers. In an August 1988 report, Amnesty International found evidence of "a consistent pattern of unlawful killing and ill-treatment of members of Burma's ethnic minorities by security forces."

United States Senate

**WASHINGTON, DC 20510
January 26, 1989**

The Honorable Armando Valladeres
Chairman

United States Delegation to the
United Nations Human Rights
Commission Department of State
Washington* DC 20520

Dear Ambassador Valladeres:

We trust that you will find occasion to bring up the repression of human rights in Burma when the U. N. Human Rights Commission convenes in Geneva on January 30th. Specifically, we urge that you make every effort to ensure that a resolution concerning Burma be considered by the Commission at this year's meeting. As you know, on August 11 of last year the Senate unanimously passed a resolution (S.Res. 464) that condemned the military government of Burma and that called upon the Secretary of State and the Permanent Representative to the United Nations to encourage the restoration of democracy in Burma and to condemn the killings and mass arrests committed there.

Last summer, after 26 years of authoritarian rule and economic stagnation, the people of Burma took to the streets in protest. Their demands were elemental and just. They sought free elections. Free speech . An accounting of the victims of police violence. For a brief moment it seemed they would carry the day. But then the army cracked down. The Military took formal control of the state apparatus on September 18, and made clear it would never share power, nor permit opposition. Soldiers fired into crowds with machine guns, mortars, and recoilless rifles. Thousands of unarmed demonstrators were killed. Over 6,000 civilians, fearing for their lives, have fled to the Burmese-Thai border.

What is more, the extraordinary display of brutality in Rangoon and in other cities last summer has for many years been a commonplace feature of the Burmese army's treatment of ethnic minority peoples living within Burma's borders. In an August 1988, report, Amnesty International found evidence of " a consistent treatment of members of Burma's

STATEMENT OF KAREN NATIONAL UNION TO BURMA ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL

After seizing state power in September 1988 the Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique announced that it would hold a multi-party democratic election. However, it has not still rescinded the oppressive regulations imposed on the people since it came to power. Moreover, it is still keeping the political prisoners in jail, denying democratic rights to the people, forcing the government servants with threats and arresting, torturing as well as killing covertly the students, monks and the civilian dissidents.

To win the support and trust of junior officers and ordinary soldiers of the army it relies upon, the Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique is desperately trying with flattery using phrases like "Just war", "army, protector of the country" and etc, liberally in its propaganda. To expand border trade and timber export with the purpose of getting more foreign exchange for its war effort, the clique is launching all-out offensives against the national revolutionary forces, especially against the KNU, employing the largest concentration of forces and fire power.

In the period of 6 months since Dec. 1988, Burma Army has suffered casualties totalling 2000 dead and 4000 wounded. At the beginning of the offensive the Ne Win-Saw Maung clique stated to the effect that it was willing to exchange the life of a soldier for a teak log, in military operations in the border areas. In a recent order, the clique instructed its district authorities to bayonet the students to death instead of shooting them if there was a renewed uprising when the schools reopened. These instances show that, for the maintenance of its rule, the Ne Win-Saw Maung clique is ready to sacrifice many more lives of Burma Army soldiers and slaughter the students again without much thought.

What is more heinous is the employment of alcohol and psycho-active drugs by the clique to induce mindlessness in the assaulting troops and send them to certain death in attacks against our camps. Such a criminal act is rarely found even in international wars.

There is no doubt that for its own benefit and for the benefit of a small elite group of some top military officers, the Ne Win-Saw Maung clique, will go on wantonly sacrificing the lives of thousands of junior officers and ordinary soldiers. Therefore, we urge you, the junior officers and soldiers of the Burma Army, to escape from the low-down and worthless fate imposed on you, with the employment of various tricks, and turn your guns against the Ne Win-Saw Maung military clique.

June 5, 1989

Central Standing Committee
Karen National Union



ethnic minorities by security forces." Countless villagers belonging to the Shan, Kachin, Karen, Palaung, Wa and the many other minority groups of Burma have been beaten, tortured, or killed for their suspected allegiance to government opponents. The army has forcibly conscripted many of them to carry heavy loads down jungle trails, and to sweep minefields. Young Burmans in Rangoon are now being similarly conscripted, destined to die anonymously in the mud of a rain forest.

All this has happened to a people that have demonstrated a remarkable faith in America and in our capacity for moral behavior. After the passage of S. Res. 464, our embassy in Rangoon became the focal point of pro-democracy demonstrations, such that our ambassador, Burton Levin, termed it the "Hyde Park of Rangoon" in a talk at the Asia Society in New York on November 29.

In his talk, Ambassador Levin concluded that by promoting human rights in Burma "we have in a sense the luxury of living up to our principles," we agree. Bringing up the case of Burma at the Human Rights Commission would ensure that the Burmese military cannot continue to behave as it has without feeling the world's condemnation. So massive a violation of the human rights of a people who have such faith in American democracy should not be forgotten.

In addition, we ask that you encourage the member nations of the Association of South East Asian Nations and other appropriate nations in the region, such as India, South Korea, and Japan, to maintain support for democratic liberalization and human rights in Burma. Thailand, especially, as Burma's most involved neighbor, has a critical role to play in the effort of the Burmese people to win the

same freedoms that the Thai people already enjoy.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Daniel Patrick Moynihan


Paul Simon


Richard G. Lugar


Edward M. Kennedy


Claiborne Pell


Alan Cranston


Carl Levin


Rudy Boschwitz

SOME IMPORTANT MILITARY ACHIEVEMENTS OF KNLA FROM

1. 3. 89 TO 31. 4. 89

No. 1. Military Zone. (Thaton District)

On 1.3.89 our troops attacked the enemy No. (24) Infantry Bn. inflicting one coy commander killed and (5) wounded.

On 3.3.89 (2) enemy trucks transporting ration for Lay Ke Camp were destroyed by our land mines.

On 9.3.89 our troops attacked enemy at Taw Gyi Camp, and captured some ammunitions and some military equipments.

On 24.3.89 and 25.3.89 our troops engaged the enemy No. 210. Infantry Battalion inflicting (6) enemies killed and (9) wounded.

No.3. Military Zone (Nyaunglebin District)

On 2.3.89 our troops attacked enemy camp at Take Paunk inflicting one enemy killed (2) wounded.

On 4.3.89 our troops attacked enemy No. 53. Infantry Bn. at Laloke Kyi camp. All enemies fled and we captured (1) G3 Rifle (3) British .303 Rifles and some military equipments.

On 21.3.89 our troops engaged the enemy with cortex joint bombs, the enemy suffered (9) killed and (6) wounded.

On 22.3.89 to 24.3.89 our troops attacked enemy inflicting (8) enemies killed and we captured (1) G3. Rifle and some military equipments.

On 3.4.89 our troops attacked enemy's militias at Kyauk Kyi township, captured (4) M.14 with (925) rounds Ammos: (6) M.2. with (114) Rounds Ammos (27) .303 British Rifles, with (240) rounds, (9) AR. with (259) rounds and (16) magazines.

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

On 2.2.89 our troops attacked

enemies on the road going to Nanthi Ler Mine, inflicting (3) enemies killed including an officer (4) wounded.

On 5.3.89. our troops engaged with enemy at Leh Pyi Gyi & Bayint Taung inflicting (2) enemies killed.

On 11.2.89 (2) enemy's policemen from Palank camp, surrendered to our troop with (2) Rifles.

On 13.2.89 our troops attacked enemy at Thakyet village, inflicting (6) enemies killed (1) wounded.

On 16.2.89 to 19.2.89 our troops engaged with enemy in three places and we captured (1), .38 pistol (2) hand grenades.

On 24.2.89 to 28.2.89 our troops attacked enemies in (4) different places inflicting (6) enemies killed and (7) wounded.

On 4.3.89 to 10.3.89 our troops engaged with enemies (4) times, (4) enemies killed and (3) wounded. We captured (1) G.2 Rifle, (80) rounds Ammos! and (5) magazines.

On 10.3.89, our KNLA and students combined troops attacked enemy at Pway Po Klar inflicting (1) enemy killed and (4) wounded.

On 6.3.89 after killing (1) enemy soldier, (8) Lai Thit village militias joined hands with our troops, bringing along with them (3) carbines and (5) Rifles.

from 11.3.89 to 27.3.89 our troops engaged (7) times with enemies, inflicting (11) enemies killed and (15) wounded.

On 24.3.89, Ka Tai village militias handed (1) carbine and some Ammos: to our KNLA and students combined troops.

No. 5. Military Zone. Dooplaya District

On 16.2.89 our troops attacked enemy at Kawk Moo bridge inflicting (4) enemies killed and (10) wounded.

No. 6. Military Zone Pa-an District)

On 18.2.89, the enemies attacked Mai La camp, our troops resisted bravely and after a few hours, the enemies retreated (16) dead and suffered (50) wounded, our troops captured (3) G4. Rifles (10) G 3 Rifles (2) RPG (3) 21/2" inches Motar, (1) G2. Rifle (3) sten gun, (1) BA. 92 (3) carbines, (2) Browning pistols and quantity of Ammos: and military equipments.

On 19.2.89 the enemy attacked our Mai La camp again, they retreated after an hour, leaving (6) dead and (39) wounded.

On 21.2.89 our Mai La troops counter attacked the enemies inflicting (15) enemies wounded.

Prom 19.2.89 to 21.2.89 the enemy shelled our Mai La camp with (1100) shells of 120 MM. and (2000) shells of various Mortars.

On 25.2. and 26.2 our troops cleared Mai La battle ground, and collected (30) bombs, (30) shells of 21/2" Mortar, (20) handgrenades, (18) 84 MM shells, and a quantity of Ammunations.

On 28.2.89 the enemy attacked Mai

La camp again, after shelling it the whole day. Our troops resisted them bravely and the enemies retreated in disorder. On clearing the battle ground, our troops captured (45) bombs, (1) BA 92, (2500) Rounds of G3. Rifle and some military equipment.

On 2.3.89, the enemies attacked Mai La camp and retreated in an hour battle, on clearing the battle ground our troops captured (2) G3 Rifles, (1) G4 Rifle. The enemies suffered (1) dead (20) wounded.

On 4.3.89 our troops shelled enemy position with heavy weapons, the enemy suffered (17) dead and (12) wounded.

On 6.3.89, one enemy Bn commander lost one of his leg by our land mine.

On 7.3.89 the enemy attacked our camp inflicting (6) enemies wounded. On the same day, (1) enemy 75. MM. Recoiless Rifle and (2) 2" inches mortar were destroyed by our heavy weapons.

On 22.3. & 23.3.89, our troops attacked enemies (4) times inflicting (1) enemy killed and (13) wounded.

On 27.3.89, the enemies attacked Mai La camp after shelling it. Because of our stiff resistance, they retreated in disorder, the enemy



Women honourary guard unit seen at Kawthoolei Women Organization Day ceremony.

suffered (12) killed and (78) wounded. On clearing the battle place, our troops collected (2) G4 Rifles, (2) G3 Rifles and (50000) rounds of cartridges, (20) hand grenades and some military equipments. In this battle (6) of our soldiers gave up their life for the nation and the country and (7) wounded.

From 29.3.89, to 31.3.89 . our troops attacked the enemy inflicting (3) enemies killed and (8) wounded.

From 1.4.89 to 5.4.89 the enemies attacked our camp (5) times. In all these battle (2) enemies killed and (29) wounded. From our side we lost (2) killed and (5) wounded*

GHQ Troops

On 21.3.89, our combined troops of GHQ, 20 Bn, Coy Mo. 1 and student 208 Bn. troops attacked enemy's No. 108 Light Inf. Bn. and No. (1) Inf. Bn. at Kwi Lay/Maw Po Kla. Fighting happened the whole day, enemy Inf. Bn. 108 suffered (10) killed including (1) captain (40) wounded and Bn (1) (10) killed and (22) wounded.

Our troops captured (1) 2 inch mortar (1) G3 Rifle, a quantity of Ammunations and some military equipments. On the same day our troops shelled enemy's Shan Ywa camp with Mortars and one ration Godown was completely burnt down.

On 24.3.89 enemys operation commander Aung Min Coy commander Win Myint, Aung San Myint and a private Khin Mg Win were wounded by our land mines.

No. 20 Bn. area Papun District.

On 21.2.89 and 22.2.89 our troops engaged with enemies in two places inflicting (6) enemies killed and (6) wounded. Our troops captured (1) G4. Rifle.

On 4.3.89 and 7.3.89 - our troops attacked enemy inflicting (9) enemies killed and we captured (1) G4 Rifle.

No. 101 Special Bn.

From 15.2.89 to 25.2. 89 , our troops shelled Mya Wadee, with Mortars, (1) enemy killed (1) wounded and some enemy's buildings were damaged.

On 1.3.89 and 3.3.89, our troops engaged with enemies twice, inflicting (3) enemies wounded.

On 3.3.89 our troops shelled Mya Widee enemy's camp with mortars, (3) enemies killed and (5) wounded.

On 27.3.89, our troops attacked enemy inflicting (4) enemies killed (8) wounded. Our troops captured (1) carbine and some ammunations.

Ta Don Wah Column

From 1.3.89 to 5.3.89, our troops engaged with enemies (3) times, inflicting (5) enemies killed including an officer and (5) wounded . One enemy's truck loaded with rations was totally destroyed.

On 3.4.89 our troops ambushed enemy on Papun road, (5) enemies killed and troops captured (1) G3 . Rifle.

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

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

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

SUMMARY OF KLA MILITARY ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH / APRIL, 1989

Military Zone	KLA attacks	KLA land mine	ENE. CASUALTIES					ENE. A/A LOSSES						REMARKS
			killed	wounded	Log-covered	outfitted	total	small arms	knagat	ammos	heavy weapons	spolia	bombs	
No. 1	2	1	7	14	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1) Coy comd killed. Destroyed (1) ens. truck. Occupied (1) ens. position and captured some ammos. and equipments.
No. 3	4	1	18	8	-	-	26	51	16	1538	-	-	-	
No. 4	4	-	37	36	-	11	84	13	5	80	-	-	2	(1) Ens. officer killed and (2) policemen surrendered. (9) Militia joined KLA forces after killing (1) ens. soldier.
No. 5	1	-	4	10	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	
No. 6	2	1	46	270	1	-	317	36	-	52500	18	30	115	Enemy attacked Mae La Camp using heavy weapons.
GRQ	4	1	20	66	-	-	86	2	-	-	-	-	-	(3) Enemy officers wounded by own land mine Destroyed (1) ens. ration go-down.
20 Mo.	1	-	15	6	-	-	21	2	-	-	-	-	-	
101 Mo.	3	-	8	17	-	-	25	1	-	-	-	-	-	Own troops surprise attacked Myawaddy.
20 Feb. War Column	1	-	10	5	-	-	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	Destroyed (1) ens. ration truck.
Total	19	4	165	432	1	11	609	106	21	54118	18	30	117	(2) ens. officers killed (4) officers wounded. Destroyed (1) ration go-down and (1) ration truck. (2) Policemen surrendered and (9) militia joined own troops.



All Races, Tribes, Nations and Nationalities are the creation of God God creates us to be a Karen. We are born as a Karen and we will die as a Karen. God does not create the Karen people simply to eliminate them. It is obvious that God is with us through out our forty years of struggle for freedom. All the Nationalities are now with us. All the students struggling for democracy are now with us. The entire people is also with us. We are therefore a majority. We shall not be moved. Just fight on. Victory is ours.

SAW BA THIN
GEN. SECRETARY
KAREN NATIONAL UNION



When we, as a nation, seeking national freedom peacefully and democratically, were continually suppressed by force, we had to take up arms eventually and fight on until to-day. In our forty years of struggle, we met with the chauvinist Burmese dictatorship for three times in the hope of restoring internal peace and harmony in the country. We had to fight on, because of all the three occasions, in addition to ignoring our demands, they insisted on our surrender and made plans to wipe our revolution out.

One significant development is that, because of tyranny of the military dictatorship since 1962, thousands of students and civilians who stand for true democracy have come to join forces with armed revolutions in the alliance known as Democratic Alliance of Burma, which is an alliance of (20) organizations and led by Gen. Bo Mya.

As our revolution is based on the people, and as the national front, the students and people from all walks of life have joined forces for true democracy. We shall surely be victorious. On the occasion of 40th anniversary of Karen revolution, I reaffirmed my pledge to fight on until the downfall of Saw Maung military dictatorship and work for the realization of the aims and objects of the Karen revolution and Karen National Union.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Saw Than Aung', written on a light-colored background.

SAW THAN AUNG
VICE PRESIDENT
KAREN NATIONAL UNION



EXCERPT FROM
PRESIDENT SAW BA U GYI'S
SPEECH GIVEN BEFORE THE BEGINNING
OF REVOLUTION



What we have to handle urgently is the matter of the people fleeing from one village to another, because they have been alarmed by some rumours. There are those who flee because they fear the communists. There are some Karens who flee, because they fear the Burmese, and some Burmese who flee, because they fear the Karens.

The truth is, the alarm has been caused by some wicked elements. Good people should join forces and work together to prevent this. We, the KNU, will take the responsibility to solve the problems within our reach. If there are Burmese who have fled from our areas, we the Karens together with the Burmese will jointly go and call them to come back with complete trust. In like manner, when the Karens are urged to return, Karens and Burmese should go together. We must give protection and make arrangement so that all will be able to live in trust and harmony. Words are not enough. This is a matter we must deal with immediately. At our congress held recently in Bassein, we adopted the resolution that the Karens, were to give help, if the Burmese people requested, for peace in the country. We are ready to give help if it is asked for. We are also laying down the guide-lines for this.

(The above are excerpts from the late KNU President Saw Ba U Gyi's speech at the dinner given by him on October 9, 1948 at the Karen National Club situated on Ahlone-Mission Road, Rangoon. The dinner was attended by Premier Thakin Nu, Shan, Chin, Kachin, Karenni, Mon and Burmese leaders.)