



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



## KAREN NATIONAL UNION (K.N.U.) BULLETIN

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## THE KAREN NATIONAL DAY

February 11, 1990 is the 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Karen National Day. All the Karen people under the leadership of the Karen National Union hold National Day celebration every year unitedly and solemnly to re-affirm their pledge to struggle on until freedom for the Karen people is achieved. To know how important this day is for the Karen people and how this Karen National Day come into existence during the Karen's struggle for freedom, a brief account of the Karen history is therefore, in order.

The Karen people are of mongoloid descent and are the earliest settlers of this country now known as Burma. Karen people had been residing in the lower Shan plateau along the Sittang-Salween watershed, in the Irrawaddy delta, and the Tennassarim before the Tibeto-Burman ever arrived on the Irrawaddy.

According to Karen history the Karen people migrated into this country in three different waves. The first wave entered in 1125 B.C., the second in 741 k.B.C, and the third and the last wave entered in 739 B.C.

The Tibeto-Burman tribes who reached the Irrawaddy around 840 A.D. brought with them monarchism. Because of the aggressive nature of monarchism, there were continual armed clashes between the Karen and the Burmese. As a result, most of the Karen people had to take refuge in the hills land wildernesses without a chance to establish a stable country of their own and were in constant fear of persecution. Since then the Karen people have been oppressed and persecuted by successive Burmese rulers. However, there were some regions under the control of the Karen chiefs and leaders, that remained free.

Under the British rule, the Karen emerged from backwardness and ignorance to enlightenment and gained broader out-look. As law and order was properly established, all the nationalities including the Karen could enjoy their rights. All could live in peace and work on their land without fear. They came to realize what was meant by prosperity.

Before Burma gained independence from the British, there were negotiations between the British Prime Minister Atlee and the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League of Burma. In neither the Aung San-Atlee agreement nor the Nu-Atlee agreement was there anything about the Karen's demand for state-hood. Similarly, nothing about the Karen was included in the Pang Long Agreement. The Karen therefore, boycotted the election and refused to recognize the Burmese government.

An understanding was reached in the Pang Long Agreement that the national groups, particularly Shan, Kachin, and Chin would be granted states with the right of secession. The option for secession after a ten years period was provided for in the 1947 constitution. However, plebiscite to decide the demand of the Shan people for constitutional change or failing that for secession never took place after ten years.

Through bitter experiences, the Karen people came to realize that they would have a chance to lead a life of peace and prosperity free from persecution only in a country of their own, where all would be able to enjoy the legitimate rights of a nation. Hence, all Karen leaders started concentrating their efforts on achieving a state for the Karen people. A Karen National Convention was held from February 5-7, 1947 at Rangoon and was attended by leaders of the Karen National Association, the Karen Central Organization, the Buddhist Karen National Association, and the Karen Youth Organization. All the leaders unanimously endorsed and actively participated in the formation of the Karen National Union which superseded all the former Karen organizations.

To publicise the Karen's aspirations for a Karen State, the Karen National Union staged peaceful demonstrations throughout the country on February 11, 1948. The demonstrations were silent processions with placards bearing four slogans which read:-

- (1) Give the Karen state at once.
- (2) Show Burmese one kyat and Karen one kyat at once.
- (3) We do not want civil war.
- (4) We do not want communal strife.

The four slogans symbolized freedom, equality, peace and national unity. It is needless to point out that the Karen National Movement was a democratic movement for freedom and national identity based on national unity.

Without seeking a peaceful solution, the then Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (AFPFL) Government headed by U Nu, started agitating for the communal strife with an intention of diverting the attention of the country from the rightful demands of the Karen people. Armed suppression led to the armed uprising of Karen people. When Burmese military came to power, it followed the policy of even more violent suppression, inducing the other non-Burmese nationalities and even the Burmese people, to rise up in arms. Hence, the responsibility for the political unrest and disorder throughout the country today lies in the tyrannous rule of the Burmese leaders. Foreign instigation has not been involved in any form, as it has been blindly accused by the military junta.

The Karen people from all walks of life, regardless of their religious beliefs, joined hands together under the banner of the Karen National Union and unitedly demonstrated and affirmed their aspirations for national identity and freedom on the day of February 11, 1948. In consequence, the Karen National Day is regarded as a memorable day in the history of the Karen people. Beginning from this Day the Karen people have been united and have been struggling valiantly, tirelessly, sacrificing everything for their national freedom. No one will doubt that after more than 40 years of armed resistance, the Karen people will struggle on at all cost for their freedom and in their heart of hearts, they realize that victory for them is sure to come one day, as surely as the day will break after the dark of the night.

## **The Position Of Democratic Alliance Of Burma (DAB) On Eradication Of Narcotic Drugs**

Burma, traditionally, is not a producer of narcotic drugs. Though opium was started to be cultivated and used on a limited scale in Burma before the independence in 1948, it had not been a serious problem.

The illegal cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs had dramatically increased during the 26-year rule of the Burma Socialist Program Party (BSPP) and has reached the highest point in the year 1989-90. This development is not accidental but due to definite and concrete causes, which are as follows:-

(1) The unlimited escalation of the civil war by Ne Win/Saw Maung military clique; this escalation of war has greatly caused the growth of the illegal production and trafficking of opium. In military operations against the ethnic peoples in the so-called Golden Triangle areas, Ne Win/Saw Maung military clique has followed the scorched earth policy of burning down and destroying countless villages and crops. Consequently, the villagers had to abandon their homes and cultivated land, and moved to intractable hill regions. Once in the hills, the uprooted population inevitably have to cultivate the opium for survival, since it is one of a few of cultivatable crops favoured by the nature of the soil and climate. The end result is the coming into existence of the opium cultivating region, the "Golden Triangle."

(2) The involvement, in various ways, of some front-line army commanders as well as some top officials of Ne Win/Saw Maung military clique living in the very capital city, Rangoon, in narcotic Drugs trafficking; and

(3) The misuse of assistances received from international drug control organizations by Ne Win/Saw Maung military clique for the genocidal war against the ethnic peoples, and for personal enrichment.

Previously, Burma was one of the rich countries in South East Asia, with an abundance of natural resources. However, due to the erroneous policies of the successive post independence governments, especially due to the oppressive rule of the dictatorial BSPP government led by Ne Win, Burma has been reduced not only to become one of the poorest countries in the world but also the top producer and trafficker country of narcotic drugs. For this state of affairs, Ne Win/Saw Maung military clique is mainly responsible.

Currently, the illegal production of opium in Burma has reached the top in the world and, in consequence, it has gained great potential to cause immense trouble to the world. For this reason, the illegal production and export of narcotic drugs of the Golden Triangle is no longer an internal problem of Burma but has progressed to the stage of being a global problem. In this situation, it is essential for the world narcotic drug control organizations to clearly see that the root cause of the burgeoning of the illegal narcotic drugs production and trade in Burma is the existence in power of Ne Win/Saw Maung military clique. Only then, any effort of the eradication of illegal narcotic drugs will have a chance to meet with success.

The DAB has maintained firm and responsible position and aims, in relation to the eradication of narcotic drugs, as follows:-

(1) The DAB is to firmly oppose until the overthrow of the fascist dictatorship of Ne Win/Saw Maung military clique, since the fundamental cause of the growth of Burma's illegal narcotic drugs cultivation and export is due to the existence of the fascist dictatorship.

(2) The DAB fully realizes the great danger posed by narcotic drugs to the world.

Accordingly, the DAB is to formulate effective programs for the elimination of narcotic drugs in Burma at the earliest date and implement them. In the implementation of its narcotic drugs eradication programs, the DAB shall actively coordinate and cooperate with international organizations engaged in narcotic drugs eradication.

The DAB calls upon the international organizations to immediately cease narcotic drugs eradication assistances to Ne Win/Saw Maung military clique since the clique, in addition to misusing the assistances given by the international organizations, has been the principal culprit for the burgeoning of narcotic drug problem.

Moreover, the DAB appeals to the individuals, organizations and governments of all the countries promoting justice, to cooperate with the DAB for the cessation of the civil war in Burma, on the basis of finding correct solutions to the underlying political problem, since the growth of narcotic drug problem is directly linked with the civil war in Burma.

In conclusion, the DAB would like to affirm that it shall formulate effective programs for the eradication of narcotic drugs in accordance with its noble aims and objects, and actively implement them.

The Central Committee  
Democratic Alliance of Burma  
February 21, 1990



*Gen. Bo Mya, chairman of the meeting, presiding over the DAB Emergency meeting.*

## THE BURMA BULLETIN

Letters to the Editor  
KNU BULLETIN

Dear Sirs:

When Burma's Dictator Ne Win came a-calling at the Johnson White House twenty-three years ago, the late Katy Ba Than, second of his seven wives, was asked how soon it would be before the military loosened its grip on the Burmese people. In a manner reminiscent of Marie Antoinette, she responded by saying before people can eat steak, they must first learn to masticate. Steak is not common Burmese fare, of course, but her analogy told the whole tale. Now, an army officer is quoted as having said: "People need to learn discipline before they can have democracy." Simply appalling!

How faithfully their Master's Voice has been echoed by minions in the three decades! I feel sad and sorry at the same time for the people of Burma who may have been betrayed into believing their emancipation lies in the forthcoming "free and fair elections." What is free about an election when the rights of assembly and free speech are abridged? What is fair when oppositionists by the thousands are under detention or are intimidated? Let my people go!

General Ne Win and his men have so brutalized the hapless citizens of Burma until they can bear it no more. The junta's propaganda apparatus has gone on an offensive maligning everyone who has the courage to speak out against the injustices. Using the aphorism "to pine for the distant aunt over the mother's shoulders," Burmese equivalent of "the grass is greener on the other side," expatriates have been labeled traitors colluding with nefarious "foreigners" to destroy the Motherland. Sister has been pitted against sister, brother against brother.

Gentlemen, a mother is compassionate and loving. She is protective and wants nothing but the best for her offspring. Do not for a moment arrogate unto yourselves the role of motherhood. You are not our mother. Nobody but yourselves, put you in power. We who have been barred from the soil that bears the bones of our ancestors have never forsaken our people. We love our people and our homeland. Proclaimed Oliver Cromwell of Charles Stuart, "the king is not England and England is not the king." Likewise, you the junta, are not Burma.

We who are free abroad must help our compatriots at home. As a facifist I do not advocate violence. Loyalty to my people compels me to speak out against the injustices perpetrated upon them by an unjust government. The purpose of freedom is for those who enjoy it to create it for others who do not.

Bring back the noble spirit of myitta (love) and garuna (compassion) from holiday. Come, leave your weapons and let us break bread together and resolve our differences at the table. Burma will be a happier place if we succeed. And history will smile on us.

*Sincerely yours,*

Sd/ U Kyaw Win.



*Instructors and trainees at legislative and criminal law training,*



*K.N.U. delegates at DAB Central Committee  
Emergency meeting.*



## **Invocation to democratic nations of the world for support and sympathetic consideration for our national movement. Democracy and human rights cause in Burma.**

Esteemed peoples of the world and leaders from democratic countries! The issue we put forward herewith is no other than the vital issue of war and peace, or more precisely, the civil war in Burma that has been raging since the country gained independence in 1948, the fact we believe the world at large is fairly aware of.

We need to emphasize we deeply cherish and esteem highly the independence, which was achieved as the result of unity in spirit and united in action of the entire nation, in the Burmese people's struggle against the British colonialism.

As Burma became sovereign independent country, Karen Nationals placed legitimate demands in peaceful manner and in accordance with accepted democratic practice before the AFPFL government, for equal rights among all nationalities, establishment of a Karen state, and for genuine unity in the country. To achieve these ends, Karen nationals staged peaceful demonstrations. The AFPFL government rejected the Karens' demands made in good faith, and retaliated by use of force at its disposal. Thousands of Karen nationals were imprisoned as many were placed in internment camps; many were subjected to tortured as a lot were killed.

Hence, left but with a little choice, the Karens for their sheer survival as a race had to resort to armed struggle and engaged in defensive war with whatever resources they had on 31 st January 1949, the fact we wish to bring to the attention of the leaders of democratic nations around the world.

As the Karen revolution, under the leadership of the Karen National Union (KNU), had started, other ethnic people such as Mons, and Karennis joined the strife followed, at later dated, by Pa O, Kachin, Shan, Arakanese, Pa

Laung, Wa, Lahu and Chin nationals in the struggle, to achieve ethnic rights. Therefore, it must be said that in Burma throughout successive regimes there was no ethnic groups that have not engaged in armed struggle for their rights.

At present, all ethnic people of Burma have, united in purpose and to achieve common objectives, stood under the banner of the National Democratic Front (NDF), and involved vigorously in the revolutionary war against the Rangoon military junta led by Gen. Saw Maung the fact we wish to let known to the leaders of the democratic countries of the world. In the meanwhile, we have painfully observed, but not without much dismay, leaders from some democratic countries it seems are not fairly aware of the righteousness of our cause in our strenuous efforts to liberate our people from the yoke of oppressive military despotism and to establish a genuine federal republic. Perhaps, due to their lack of appreciation of the realities of the Burmese people's struggle for democracy and human rights, some democratic countries continue their support to the Rangoon military dictatorship by extending political, social, economic and financial aid.

In spite of such unwarranted support rendered by some democratic countries to Gen. Saw Maung military dictatorship, we are relieved to be assured judging from the fact the existence of the forty year civil war in Burma itself is self-evident that it continues to receive support and enjoys complete trust by the Burmese people, which inevitably lends credence to the correct path the revolution has taken, the goals and programs well defined. On the other hand, the continued if not unabated belligerency seen as the civil war in Burma, which has been raging countrywide since the dawn of Burma independence, demonstrates the inca-

capacity, if not impotence of the Rangoon military regime despite its half-century long relentless endeavours to crush the revolutionary forces. Not only its efforts to suppress ethnic revolution has proved futile, the Rangoon military junta's policies as regards economic, social and political also are found to have been bankrupt by any logical yardstick, if measured.

Yet, it is disheartened to observe the corrupt and inept military rule has inadvertently reduced Burma, a country once was rich and endowed with abundance natural resources, to be one of the poorest nations on earth, and accordingly, the United Nations has had but a little choice than to proclaim Burma as one of the least developed nations in the world, the ugly stigma with which the Burmese people will have to live for years to come.

The entire nation, under unscrupulous domination of Ne Win-Saw Maung military despotism, has increasingly been reduced to abject poverty in which the Burmese people have to strive for sheer survival in the face of untold hardships in their daily lives. Coupled with inhuman conditions the Burmese people were forced to live with, the total indifference of the much abhorred military rulers to the plight of its people for decades, at the long last reached to the boiling point that led students, youths, Buddhist monks, members from the civil service and armed forces, and entire populace to stage massive and months long demonstrations in Rangoon and around the country, which reached its climax in fateful September, 1988; demand, loud and clear for restoration of democracy and fundamental human rights were echoed around the world.

Were *raison d'etre* to prevail, Ne Win-Saw Maung military dictatorship would have recognized the general will reflected in nationwide peaceful demonstrations as that of paramount issues that needed to be addressed promptly. Instead, the Rangoon military junta's response to the Burmese people's thirst for democracy and basic human rights was unleashing maximum use of fire power which

killed thousand of students, youths, Buddhist monks and citizens from different walks of life in Butma. Thousands of Burmese people suffered grievous physical injuries and many were thrown into jails.

At this juncture, we beseech leaders from democratic nations to use their good office and exert necessary measures against Ne Win-Saw Maung military junta for restraint and to respect democracy and human rights of the Burmese people.

Esteemed people of the world and leaders from the democratic countries! It brings tremendous relief to the Burmese people to learn many leaders from the democratic countries around the world understand the reality of situation in Burma and the righteousness of the Burmese people's cause for restoration of democracy and human rights. However, we also are appalled at actions taken by some democratic countries which evidently indicate the lack of understanding and want of sympathetic consideration toward the plight of our Burmese people. The question, then, would be why leaders from such democratic countries delay in joining other leading democratic nations in support of our right cause?

It is deemed appropriate now to emphasis that as and when human tolerance and restraint on the part of students and youths, Buddhist monks and Burmese public had finally exhausted as it became impossible to withstand machinegun bullets and fearsome bayonets anymore, and as thousands of their compatriots were brutally massacred, the demonstrating mass had but left with only alternative to escape to liberated areas of our ethnic revolutionary forces and to take refuge at those havens. Thus the exodus of the Burmese started. Thousand of students, youths, members from academia, civil service, armed forces, Buddhist monks and professionals from various walks of life from Burma arrived at ethnic held liberated areas, and were warmly welcomed by local population, ethnic, social and political organization as well as by armed ethnic forces.

Formed into a formidable force, they joined hand in hand with our ethnic brethren in the common struggle to free the Burmese people from the bondage of military despotism.

To meet the historic demands as it everged violently from new developments in Burma and to be able to better serve the hopes and aspirations of our peoples, the National Democratic Front (NDF) availed itself with the opportunity and sponsored the formation of a broad-based organization. The result was seen in the formal establishment of the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) in November, 1988.

The DAB comprises of twenty organizations of which there are armed ethnic revolutionary parties; expatriate democratic organizations from democratic countries around the world; Young Buddhist Monks association; and All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF) to name a few. We are pleased to let known what the Karen National Union (KNU) has been, since the Burmese exodus to the libersted areas, taken care of students and youths from the ABSDF, providing them with moral, material and other support to make their new found life more tolerable. It may perhaps be more than a historic coincident that Gen. Saw Bo Mya, who served as president of the Karen National Union, Was unanimously elected as the chairmen of the Democratic Alliance of Burma since inception.

Ironic it would perhaps seem to note that some democratic countries, prior to the bloody events occurred in mid-September of 1988 in Burma, were somewhat inclined to view the civil war in Burma as ethnic insurrection only with little significance. Their ill informed views as to the nature of civil war in Burma, which was made to focus only on ethnic question proved to be erroneous, for today, the entire struggle in recognized as more than that of strife for ethnic rights: it is but peoples' struggle for democracy and fundamental human rights in Burma. This belated reappraisal of the Burmese revolution for democracy and human rights might have been responsible for

the delay in response and support from some democratic countries, it is feared.

In our attempt to dispell doubts over the true nature of the struggle in Burma, one only needs examine two vital forces that are presently found in the country:

(1) The Ne Win-Saw Maung military junta which imposed its will over the Burmese people through employment of unlicenced use of total force;

(2) The Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) and forces in the struggle for restoration of democracy and human rights in Burma. The questions arise as to which group or force that

(1) Defend democracy and human rights and committted itself for the struggle to achieve these ends; and

(2) Blatantly violates democratic and human rights of the Burmese people or out in another way, the questions will be whether;

(1) Ne Win-Saw Maung military junta in any manner represents democratic ideals and advocate democracy and human rights; or

(2) Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) that is committed to fight for democracy and human rights for the Burmese people, the seeking for correct answers by the leaders of the democratic countries has become crucial for all of us.

As and when correct answers are determined, all democratic countries are earnestly requested to:

(1) Demonstrate its interest in our cause and establish communication with the democratic forces in Burma, led by the DAB;

(2) Provide support to those democratic forces committed in the just struggle in any manner;

(3) Stop giving all kinds of aids to the Rangoon military dictatorship by those democratic countries which have already committed in doing such.

The Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) is unfalteringly committed in the just struggle for democracy, human rights, national solidarity, internal peace and establishment of a genuine federal republic for the entire nation. As such, the DAB is earnestly calling for under-

standing, sympathetic consideration and support to expedite achieving the defined goals for the suffering Burmese people, the appeal sincerely made to the peoples of the world and leaders of the democratic nations.

Golden BE11  
Member, KNU and DAB  
Burma



*C.R.D.B delegate at DAB Central Committee Emergency meeting.*

## The Fight for Freedom and Democracy in Burma

A year ago, on September 18-19, the world witnessed bloodshed and violence on the streets of Rangoon. These tragic events were not an isolated episode in Burmese history. For a long time, the legitimate democratic aspirations of the Burmese peoples have been neglected and suppressed. In fact, since 1962, a repressive military government has ruled Burma, without either obtaining a mandate from the people or even respecting fundamental human rights. Large-scale indiscriminate killings, torture, and arbitrary detentions have marked the regime's standard response to Burmese citizens' peaceful attempts to express their desire and fundamental right-for a return to a multiparty democratic system. Regrettably, the most recent demonstrations culminated in yet another military crackdown.

### Military Crackdown

While repression is not new in Burma, the extent of the repression of 1988 was unprecedented. Burmese law proscribes summary executions, and the tenets of buddhism—a faith with many followers in Burma—stress the sanctity of life. Yet throughout 1988, lethal force was indiscriminately used by the dictatorial regime to crush peaceful demonstrations and expressions of political sentiment. In March and June alone, hundreds of courageous students paid with their lives to protest ruthless police brutality, repression of political rights, and the government's mishandling of the Burmese economy. In August 1988, in just 5 days, reportedly more than 2,000 Burmese died at the hands of their government, although precise numbers will never be known. Only a month later in September, the military again indiscriminately fired without warning on peaceful, unarmed demonstrators—who were merely expressing their political beliefs. On those two tragic days, some 1,000 persons were killed. Ironically, as it was suppressing any opposition to its repressive rule by the massive application

of force, the military leadership also announced its intention to relinquish power shortly and vowed to hold multiparty elections. As we know, these promises were not fulfilled.

Since last year, the military regime has also sought to stamp out political opposition. By decree, gatherings of more than four persons are considered illegal, and within only the last 2 months, thousands of members of the opposition political parties have been arrested in military roundups throughout the country. The entire leadership of the People's Progressive Party and members of the Executive Committee of the League of Democratic Allies have been imprisoned. The regime has actively blocked the activities of Burma's most energetic, popular, and respected political leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, the daughter of Burmese national hero Aung San. As the leader of Burma's largest opposition political party, the National League for Democracy, she has been under house arrest since July 20.

The regime's crackdown on dissent has been pervasive and ruthless. Torture, beatings, and mistreatment of political prisoners are frequent and in some instances have resulted in death. In a number of cases, prisoners are crowded into small cells, knee deep in water, or forced to stand in water while being interrogated. Sleep deprivation, beatings resulting in severe eye and ear injuries, electric shock to the genitals, and other reprehensible torture tactics appear to be routine methods for questioning.

### An Oppressive Legal System

In addition, the judicial system, the police, and penal institutions have lost any semblance of independence and have been turned into instruments of oppression. In July, local military commanders were bestowed with summary powers of trial and execution, resulting in accused persons being deprived of any legal means to defend themselves. Military

tribunal, composed of people completely lacking in legal training, make the final determination on all cases, political or criminal. Defense lawyers are severely limited in what they are allowed to say and reportedly under warning that too vigorous a defense can result in negative consequences for both the client and the lawyer.

### **Continued Human Rights Abuses**

Human rights abuses also have continued to be inflicted upon the ethnic insurgents. For many years, the military has rounded up ethnic minorities and has pressed them into service as porters forced to carry heavy supplies and to walk in the vanguard of troops when ambushes, booby traps, or minefields were expected. Reports abound that following the military takeover of last September, the Burmese military has been using young ethnic Burmans for forced labor.

As a result of the continuing reprehensible violations of human rights, from 3,000 to 4,000 Burmese students now find refuge in the Thailand-Burma border area. Any who have not fled the cities remain subject to arrest, torture, and possible execution. Many of those who voluntarily returned to Rangoon in the aftermath of the coup were allegedly executed.

The 1988 coup dealt our hopes for progress toward democracy in Burma a severe setback. The Burmese people today live in a repressive, military state where political and civil liberties are restricted, allegations of torture, arbitrary detentions, and executions abound, and the general living conditions are extremely poor.

Given these egregious human rights abuses and the suffering of the Burmese people, what are the prospects for free and fair elections next May, as promised by the present Burmese Government? With the regime's campaign to eradicate any free political expression or opposition, it is difficult to conceive how a free election will be held in May. Additionally, the

government has taken steps to implement the election law in a way that appears to favor the National Unity Party, the successor to the Burma Socialist Program party. The government has also stated that only elections to a constituent assembly will be held in May, with the military remaining in power until a new constitution is ratified.

Despite the rigid controls placed on society and brutal punishments meted out to members of the opposition, the courageous Burmese people have not been deterred in their struggle for freedom and democracy. Strong, relentless appeals for democratic change and reform ring loudly throughout Burma. This attitude is not surprising; courage and perseverance are traditional traits of the Burmese people.

### **U.S. Response**

What can and should the United States do to help the Burmese people in their valiant fight for freedom and democracy? Appropriately, the U.S. response following the government's bloody crackdown on the demonstrations last year was to suspend all U.S. economic and military assistance to Burma. In addition, we have repeatedly raised directly with the Burmese authorities and also in our public statements our concern about human rights violations in Burma. Throughout, we have sought to enlist the support of other nations. And our efforts have borne fruit. Other democracy countries and international organizations have joined us in criticizing Burmese human rights violations and demanding a return to democracy.

For example, earlier this year, the UN Human Rights Commission issued a statement calling for the Burmese Government to take the necessary steps to assure human rights and fundamental freedoms of the people of Burma. The commission also will review cases of alleged human rights abuses when the full commission meets in February and March of 1990. Meanwhile, on September 8, the

European Community released a strong statement expressing its concern about the worsening human rights conditions and requesting that the Burmese authorities end repression and respect the Burmese people's desire to establish a democratic society through free elections.

Aside from our concern about continued human rights violations in Burma, we have been mindful of the plight of Burmese students who have taken temporary refuge in Thailand and near Thai-Burmese border. We support the provision of continued timely humanitarian assistance to them to ease their stay. Private voluntary organizations functioning through the Burma Coordinating Group, are attempting to meet their existing needs. Despite these endeavors, such items as malaria pills, mosquito netting, food, and essential medical commodities remain in short supply. We believe that these efforts deserve backing and are exploring ways to assist them.

We are also committed to allowing

entry into the United States of those Burmese who meet the criteria for refugee or parole status. Several Burmese have already arrived in the United States under humanitarian Parole status.

For years, the heroic Burmese people have been deprived of the opportunity to exercise their right of self-determination. Nevertheless, it is clear that using brute force against peaceful demonstrators is not the answer. No oppression, however awesome, can forever deny to the people the realization of their fundamental human and political aspirations. As Thomas Jefferson said "the desire for freedom is universal." History, through the passions and energies of freedom-loving men and women, has a way of rejecting sooner or later non-viable ideas and solutions. Sooner or later the dream of the Burmese people will be realized. It is toward this goal that we should all strive.

Paula Dobriansky

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 GNU Bulletin. Readers living farther away than Thailand usually double that amount.

Once again, readers of the GNU 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, GNU Bulletin, PO BOX 22, Maesod, Tak Province, Thailand.

While the world waits and watches the struggle for control of Cambodia, scene of the old killing field, another struggle is going on to the West, in the killing fields of Burma. By comparison with the war in Indochina, the 41 year old civil war in Burma has received little publicity. It was not until some of the victims of the war crossed the border into Thailand seeking asylum, and became refugees, that people on the outside started to become aware of what was happening. Since then it has taken a few non government agencies several years to convince people in high places, in democratic countries round the world, that Burma had been, and was being ruled by one of the most corrupt Dictators in the world. This man who hob-nobbed with British Royalty, owned a house in Wimbledon, travelled around in various countries, salting away some of his illgotten millions, reduced Burma from one of the most prosperous countries in the region, to the beggar nation it is to day. His name is Ne Win, and he was born in the Prome district into a Sino Burmese family. He left college without a degree, and became a postal clerk. He was a member of the Dobama Asiayone (Thakin Association), and served in the Burma National Army, which fought on the Japanese side against the Allies until March 1945, when it turned against the Japanese. He seized power in 1962, and although he resigned in 1988, he is still believed to be holding the reins of power.

Every day the 120 mm, 81 mm, and 60 mm Mortars, and the 75 mm and 76 mm artillery of the Burmese Army hammer out their music of death, pounding the Karen, Kachin, Karenni, and other ethnic groups positions, using thousands of dollars worth of ammunition, paid for with money obtained by selling cheap concessions to cut down the country's valuable forests of teak, and other exotic trees, and to exploit the other natural resources, such as oil, minerals, gem stones, and fishing. The count which was granted poorest nation status

by the United Nations, and is among the 10 poorest nation status by the United Nations, is being raped to pay for the attempted destruction of its ethnic minorities. In the mean time Burmese Ships sink, Burmese aircraft crash, and the public utilities malfunction, all because there is no money available for spare parts, and proper maintenance.

But what about the human cost. Thousands of Burmese soldiers have died, and thousands have been injured in the course of this protracted war of attrition waged by this megalomaniac Ne Win. Military losses by the armies of the various ethnic groups involved have been lighter, as Burmese forces generally suffer more casualties, because the so called insurgents are expert jungle fighters, and they are well entrenched in their strong holds. Among the ethnic groups, it is the civilian population that has paid the highest price. Thousands have been rounded up over the years and forced to become porters for the Burmese Army. Many of these have died through such things as being used as human mine clearing machines, by being driven into mine fields at gun point by Burmese soldiers. Others have been killed by being forced to walk ahead of advancing Burmese troops into incoming fire. Many have died from ill-treatment at the hands of their captors, from beatings, from being forced to carry excessively heavy loads till they dropped, and were abandoned to die by the side of the track. Many died from sickness and the lack of medical attention and many were brutally murdered. Many villagers have also been raped, beaten, tortured, killed and imprisoned without trial.

Thousands of Burmese civilians have also died. Many of them gunned down during demonstrations. Many others have been beaten and tortured to death in the prisons. Others, like some of the school girls who were pack raped by Burmese soldiers, and Special Police, after they were taken into custody, have committed sui-



cide. Many people have also died because of lack of medical attention, and because no medicines were available except on the black market.

The only thing that kept the country going before 1988 was foreign aid. When many countries stopped giving aid because of the appalling disregard for human rights of Burma's ruling Military Junta, Burma's rulers started talking about holding free and fair elections, and allowing foreign companies to come into Burma and exploit the resources. Since then they have imprisoned many of the country's opposition figures, and redoubled their efforts to wipe out some of the ethnic groups.

The only thing that is keeping the country going now is renewal of some foreign aid and the millions of dollars that are pouring in from foreign companies who are buying up cheap concessions, or who are being awarded

contracts to build factories, etc. The list of these companies is growing daily, and although many of the Democratic Nations of the world have condemned the Burmese Government, they are still allowing their companies to trade with the Burmese, which helps to prop up the oppressive and corrupt regime. This shows that countries like the United States of America, Australia, Japan, Thailand, South Korea and Malaysia may pay lip service to the articles governing human and minority rights laid down in the United Nations charter, but in the end result the only important thing in their thinking is the almighty dollar. Words are cheap, and regrettable there are not enough politicians with the guts to stand up and be bounted as medn and women of principal prepared to cast out this pariah among the Governments of the world.

H. Wood



*Teachers and students at closing ceremony of English Speaking Classes*

## Use Democracy to Stomp Out Drugs

By William Overholt

HONG KONG - If the U.S. wants to eradicate drugs in Burma the heart of drug production in Asia, its best bet is to promote the democratic movements there. Instead, U.S. policy makers have been working with the discredited government-which is the ultimate cause of the problem.

U.S. drug policy toward Burma was crippled, perhaps unavoidably, during the 1960s, and 1970s when dictator Ne Win sealed the country from outside influences and, not coincidentally, drove its economy into the ground. Now, however, there is a possibility that the rural and urban opposition may come together in a forceful coalition against the government, nominally ruled by Gen. Saw Maung, but still bearing the mark of Gen. Ne Win. Instead of encouraging this trend, the U.S. Government persists in treating much of the opposition as part of the problem.

To date, U.S. anti-drug policy toward Burma has been driven by the idea that since the the drug traffic originated with certain tribal groups, there was no alternative to working with the government to suppress it. So the U.S. sought to isolate the tribal groups, considering them leftists, numerically insignificant and harmful to relations with Rangoon, and provided the regime with funds, helicopters, and herbicides.

This approach is deeply flawed. First it effectively aligned Washington with one of the world's most anti-democratic and vicious governments. Second, it is the government's hopeless economic policies that force much of the population into inpendence on the drug trade. Third, the Burmese government employed U.S. sent helicopters and herbicides in its broad civil war against the dozen or so tribal-based insurgencies. The helicopters became troop transports and the herbicide was

used against food crops for political purposes.

The U.S. Thought it was backing the Burmese government in a war against drugs and leftists. The Burmese regime, however, modeled on communist regimes, enmeshed itself in the drug trade, and sometimes collaborated with the Burmese Communist Party. In short, the U.S. was feeding the fox to guard the chickens.

The Burmese Way to Socialism, even with its recent modifications, perpetuates the drug trade. The Burmese Way to Socialism means that there will be no money for usable roads to provide farmers with a way to bring their vegetables to the cities or to provide the army with effective access to drug areas. The Burmese Way to Socialism means that there will be no collaboration between lowlanders and tribal peoples to eliminate the drug trade, because the subsistence economy creates a war of all against all.

### Prosperity in Thailand.

Neighboring Thailand, on the other hand, has suppressed most of its drug trade. The same tribes in habit both sides of the border, and agricultural conditions are similar. But the Thai government has encouraged market-oriented economic growth and subsidized the transition from drugs to vegetable crops. Then it cracked down. The region is far more prosperous with vegetable crops than it was with opium, so most farmers cooperate. The prosperity creates some sense of solidarity between the Thai people and the tribal peoples. And the prosperity pays for the roads and guns for soldiers to crack down on those who don't cooperate. If Burma had an economy like Thailand's the same solution would evolve.

American policy, although not a primary influence on the course if Burmese

politics, thus has inadvertently supported the maintenance of a system in which a huge drug trade is inevitable. Despite its self-defeating character, U.S. policy was at least comprehensible when there was no alternative to the Rangoon regime.

Now there is an alternative, namely an opposition that advocates democracy and an economic order that would make solution of the drug problem possible. The U.S. has publicly displayed distaste for the Saw Maung regime and some sympathy for the lowland opposition. But the momentum of old ties, and the desire for selfjustification, have led American policy to continue treating the rural, tribal-based opposition as enemies. Since the urban opposition cannot defeat an army which is prepared to shoot and kill thousands in order to maintain power, as it did in 1988, the U.S. has inadvertently contributed to the division of the democratic opposition and the maintenance of the Saw Maung/Ne Win dictatorship.

The West's image of the Burmese hill tribes is shaped by dramatic interviews with Khun Sa, the opium warlord who has been available conveniently near the Thai border for both print and television journalists. Most of these reports do not qualify the resulting drug-ridden image of the hill tribes by mentioning that Khun Sa's relations with the tribal coalitions (the military National Democratic Front and the political Democratic Alliance of Burma) Groups have been generally hostile. Nor is it often pointed out that Khun Sa has had alliances with both the Burmese Communist Party and the Burmese government.

Nor can the image of the rural democratic opposition as committed to the drug trade withstand scrutiny. Admittedly, opium is grown in rural areas; three of 11 major tribal groups (the Shans, Wa, and Kachins) are involved in the drug trade. The Wa acknowledge involvement but bitterly denounce the necessity of choosing between starvation and the drug trade, and express willingness to

abandon it as soon as there is an opportunity to grow and market substitute crops. The desperate economic conditions of the Wa area substantiate their claim of lack of alternatives, and the Wa policy of immediately executing any member of their tribe who becomes addicted substantiates their view of the drug trade.

Ai Shiao Seu, a Wa leader, told me, "We have been trapped. Ne Win and Saw Maung never did anything to develop our area. They only helped the lowlands and ethnic Burmese elsewhere. The only alternative was the BCP, because it had foreign support, but it also did nothing for economic development. Worse, connections with it led the U.S. to support the Burmese in attacking us. We wish the out-side world would hear our plea for a development program that would provide an alternative."

The most embarrassing involvement for the upland opposition is the Kachins. Although they are less dependent on the drug trade than the Wa, their involvement is particularly significant because their Kachi Independence Army is the strongest of the NDF armies. The Kachins' role in the drug trade has stimulated the U.S. to refuse a visa to Brag Seng, their leader and the DAB's foreign spokesman, and U.S. treatment of him as a mere drug trader has emittred him and hindered any possible relationship between Washington and the DAB.

This involvement of NDF and DAB components in the drug trade is undeniable. At the same time, it must be kept in perspective. Substantial involvement is confined to three of 11 tribal groups. The top leader of the DAB, President Bo Myaa, is a Karen, and Kar5ens are the military front line of the upland opposition. The Karens are not involved in the drug trade, and their tribal policy, rigorously applied, is to execute anyone found growing, using, or trading in drugs.

The vast majority of the tribes, the population, and the land area represented by the DAB are not involved in the drug trade. The

DAB support market-oriented economic policies that would create alternatives to the drug trade and a mutually respectful political federation that would encourage Thai-style cooperation.

In contrast, the regime pursues policies that perpetuate a drug-dependent system. Rangoon's military operations against its numerous tribal enemies have driven much of the population into remote areas where nothing but opium can grow and be marketed. The NDF is the worst enemy of Khun Sa, while the Burmese government is formally allied with him and other drug lords in joint military campaigns against the NDF. Since the 1960s, when Ne Win first nurtured Khun Sa and the other future drug lords as a counterweight to his rural political opponents, the government has felt more comfortable in alliance with the purely mercenary drug forces than with the politically driven tribal groups.

The reality of today's Burma is that no substantial political force can possibly be free of all drug taint. The only policy that can roll back the tide of drugs is one that changes the economic and political structure. The only such policy that can work is one that brings down the regime whose interests are totally dependent on maintenance of the Burmese Way to Socialism. And that can be accomplished only by a coalition of urban and rural opposition. Through inadvertence rather than malice, American policy stands in the way of creating an effective

democratic coalition.

### **Dependent on Opium**

American Congressmen and senior policy makers say they support Burmese democracy and solution of the drug problem. But as a practical matter, American officials in Burma have chosen to support an anti-drug policy tied to the dictatorial regime at the expense of democratic forces. While the provision of helicopters, herbicides and aid has ceased, the vital political policy has remained: willingness to deal with the Rangoon regime and insistence on treating the rural opposition as outlaws. Ironically, a nation that is thoroughly committed both to democracy and to suppression of the drug trade is pursuing detailed policies that trade away democracy for the anti-drug policy, and an anti-drug policy that maintains the economic system which makes much of the economy dependent on opium. If the Bush administration seeks a victory in the war on drugs, its new team will have to turn Burma policy on its head.

### **A WORD OF THANKS**

We would like to express our heart-felt gratitude to our friends near and far and our brethren, the overseas Karens, for their ardent encouragement and good wishes for the KNU Bulletin.

We earnestly hope to go on receiving their support and encouragement in the future as well.

Editors & Staff  
KNU Bulletin

SUMMARY OF K N L A MILITARY ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 1990.

Military zone	K N L A attacks	K N L A land mines	ENE CASUALTIES				ENE A/A LOSSES					REMARKS		
			Killed	Wounded	legsevered	surrender	total	small arms	Magazines	Ammos	Heavy weapons		shell's etc	Bombs
No. 1	7	1	33	47	-	1	81	18	23	4180	-	-	-	(1) Capt. wounded, (1) bridge and (2) trucks were destroyed.
No. 2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1) Ene. soldier from No. 73 light infantry Bn. surrendered.
No. 3	2	-	4	3	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ene. troops looted 140,000 k. cash from civilians and one killed.
No. 4	5	-	8	7	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ene. troops killed (3) villagers at Wah Plaw Village
No. 5	8	1	37	16	-	-	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	Two enemy trucks were destroyed by our land mines
No. 6	1	1	3	15	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GHQ	9	-	35	61	-	-	96	7	3	160	-	-	-	(2) enemy majors killed and (2) corporal-wounded.
20 Bn.	4	10	24	63	-	-	87	6	25	1383	-	6	1	(3) enemy trucks were destroyed
101 Bn.	1	2	31	16	-	1	48	20	34	17818	-	263	64	Ene. troops crossed into the Thaiside and repulsed by our units.
Ta Doh Wah Column	1	2	3	2	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1) enemy truck was destroyed by our land mines.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>23541</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>65</b>	

## Some important successes of KNLA troops in January/February 1990.

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

From 7.1.90 to 15.1.90, our troops engaged the enemy (3) times, (3) enemy killed and (3) wounded. Our troops captured (1) G. 4 rifle (1) M. 16 rifle (500) rounds of 7.62 MM ammunitions, burnt down two enemy out-posts and one enemy surrendered to our troops bringing with him one M. 16 rifle.

On 20.1.90 our combined troops of No. (1) Bde, GHQ and KNDO, attacked the enemy between Noh Ma Kwi and Kray Kret (6) enemy killed (10) wounded and our troops captured (1) carbine together with (2) magazines and (100) rounds of ammunitions. On that same day our troops attacked two other enemy camps, (8) enemy killed (7) wounded and captured one alive. In these engagements our troops captured (1) carbine (2) British rifles, (140) rounds of .30 cartridges (80) rounds of AK ammos.

On 21.1.90, our troops attacked enemy at Ti Met Baw and Ta Ya Kwi, (7) enemy killed and (10) wounded including one captain.

On 23.1.90 our troops waged mine warfare against enemy at Ha Lay village, (4) enemy killed and (3) wounded. The enemy troops looted everything from that village.

On 26.1.90 enemy No. (24) Light Infantry Bn. entered Ta Eu Khee village and killed (4) villagers without reason.

On 12.2.90, our combined troops of No. (1) Bde, GHQ, No. (209) Bn. of (ABSDF) and KNDO No. (2) Bn. troops attacked Kyaik Kaw enemy's camp, all enemy fled and our troops burnt down the whole camp. Our troops captured (4) G.3 rifles (1) carbine, (6) Stens (7) Sten magazines, and (130) rounds carbine ammos. (14) G. 3 magazines, (3230) rounds of 7.62 MM ammos (20) back sacks, (20) haver sacks (20) pairs of combat boots, (30) suits of uniform, and some other small ammunitions and military equipments. In this engagement (5) enemy killed and (14) wounded including

one coy. Commander. Our troops destroyed one bridge and two enemy trucks. On that same day our troops engaged enemy at Noe Pah Leh and (2) enemy wounded.

### No. 2 Military Zone. (Taungoon District)

On 17.1.90, Thay Kya from enemy's Light Infantry Bn. No. (73) surrendered with one G.3 (2) magazines (90) rounds of 7.62 ammos to our troops.

### No. (3) Military Zone. (Nyaunglebin District)

On 2.1.90, our troops engaged enemy near Noh Gaw village, enemy suffered (2) killed and one wounded.

On 14.1.90, enemy troops looted the civilians between Waw Kyu and Leh Kah, one civilian died and they seized (4) of them and looted (140,000) (one hundred forty thousands kyats.) from them.

On 16.1.90, our troops engaged with enemy at Baw Kah Hta and Kaw Tha Say, (2) enemy killed and (2) wounded.

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

From 6.1.90 to 21.1.90 our troops engaged with enemy (4) times, enemy suffered (7) killed and (7) wounded. On 3.2.90 our troops ambushed enemy near Pa Na Mi village killing (1) enemy.

On 4.2.90, enemy troops killed (3) villagers at Wah Plaw village.

### No. 5 Military Zone. (Dooplaya District)

On 6.1.90, our troops ambushed enemy at Kyaw Ket Boh Deh (2) enemy killed.

On 7.1.90, our troops attacked enemy No. 12 Light Infantry Bn. Near Shwe Maw village, (2) enemy wounded.

On 8.1.90, and 9.1.90 enemy were

wounded by our land-mines.

On 9.1.90, our troops ambushed enemy at Chukli enemy suffered (3) killed. On the same day one enemy truck was destroyed by our land mine.

On 16.1.90 our combined troops ambushed enemy truck near Ah Lai Bo Deh, enemy suffered (15) killed and one D.E truck was totally destroyed.

On 17.1.90, our troops attacked enemy near Chaung Na Kwa, (3) enemy killed and (2) wounded. On that same day one enemy was wounded by our land-mine.

On 21.1.90 our troops ambushed enemy at Thay Kyauk Sort Khi (5) enemy killed and (4) wounded.

On 22.1.90, our combined troops ambushed enemy at Taw Thu Haw (5) enemy wounded.

On 2.2.90, and 3.2.90 our troops attacked enemy at U Hu Hta and U Kut village (4) enemy killed and (4) wounded.

On 15.2.90 our troops attacked enemy's No. 7/62 Light Infantry Bn. at Mi Saw village (5) enemy killed and (2) wounded.

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

On 1.1.90, our troops engaged with enemy at Kaut Nyei enemy suffered (2) killed and (6) wounded.

From 4.1.90 to 25.1.90, enemy were hit by our land-mines killing (1) and (9) wounded.

**No. 20 Battalian. (Papun District)**

On 5.1.90, (2) enemy were wounded by our land-mine near Kho Thwee village.

On 9.1.90 our troops attacked enemy at Lerdi Taw, enemy suffered (2) killed and (10) wounded. Our troops captured (1) G.4 rifle, (5) magazines and (120) rounds of ammos. On the same day our combined troops ambushed enemy between Ler Dah and Ler Guh (2) enemy killed and (10) wounded, our troops captured (1) G.4 rifle and (160) rounds of ammos.

On 10.1.90, our troops engaged enemy at Kyaw Pa river side, (1) enemy killed and (2)

wounded.

On 22.1.90, our troops attacked enemy at Nga Pyaw Doh village (3) enemy killed (3) wounded.

On 24.1.90, our troops attacked enemy between Tauh Klaw Khi and Baw Kyo Lei, (5) enemy wounded including (1) Lieutenant.

On 26.1.90, one enemy was wounded by our land-mine.

On 1.2.90, our troops engaged with enemy at Te Wah Klu Khi, enemy suffered (3) killed (1) wounded.

On 2.2.90, our troops attacked enemy's transport trucks at two places, destroyed (4) trucks.

On 3.2.90 and 4.2.90 our troops engaged with enemy at Meh Myeh Ta and chaung and Ti Gay Law, (4) enemy killed, (9) wounded and our troops captured (1) G.3 rifle and (1) G.4 rifle. On 5.2.90, our troops engaged with enemy at Mai Prit Khi, (3) enemy killed and our troops captured (1) G.3 rifle and (1) M. 79 grenade launcher.

On 8.2.90 our combined troops of coy. No. (1), GHQ troops, KNDO and home guards attacked enemy No. 14 Light Infantry Bn. at Mai Ka Naw Ta, enemy suffered (8) killed including one coy. commander, one platoon commander and (26) wounded. Our troops captured (1) M. 79 grenade launcher (20) Nos. of G.3 magazines (10000) rounds of 7.62 MM ammos and some other ammos, and military equipments.

**No. 101 Special Battalion.**

On 1.1.90 our combined troops attacked enemy at Ka Sar Klaw and Paw Wah Ta, (3) enemy killed, (4) wounded and our troops captured (1) G.3 rifle.

On 4.1.90 enemy No. 118 Light Infantry Bn. killed a villager Saw Ber Ghaw at Ti Law Thi village and burnt down (5) houses together with (250) baskets of rice.

On 8.1.90 and 22.1.90 our troops waged mine warfare killing (4) enemy and (8) wounded.

From 20.1.90, to 27.1.90, enemy No.

(118) Light Infantry Bn. burnt down (36) villagers houses and (424) baskets of paddy.

From 6.1.90, to 9.1.90, (2) enemy killed (4) wounded and one truck destroyed by our land-mines.

On 9.2.90, enemy troops bombard our Kaw Moora camp the whole day with heavy weapons, using (4) Nos. of 120 MM, (4) Nos. of 76. MM, (4) Nos. of 105 MM, (2) .5, (2) 20 MM. On the same day enemy No. 111/116 Light Inf. Bns. crossed to Thai territory and attacked us from the rear the whole night.

On 10.2.90, another enemy troops from our front side, entered Thai territory and tried to attack us. Our troops, with high spirit, fought back the enemy bravely. The enemy troops retreated leaving (22) dead bodies, and our troops captured (3) enemy alive. In these engagements our troops captured 20 G.2/3/4 rifles, (28) magazines (16915) rounds of 7.62 MM ammos (800) round of .5 bullets, (7) Nos. of M. 79 ammos (26) Nos. of RPG 7 rockets (20) shells of 57 MM (23) shells of 60 MM, (187) shells of 84 MM, (31) hand grenades, (1) binocular, (35) shells of 2 inches mortar, (11) pairs of equipment, (22) Nos. back saacks (40) Nos. of M. 72, one enemy surrendered together with (1) G. 3 rifle, (6) magazines and (100) rounds of ammos. In these engagements, (6) of our soldiers given up their lives for our national cause and (10) wounded.

On 10.2.90, and 20.2.90 (3) enemy wounded by our land-mines.

### **Ta Doh Wah Column**

On 23.1.90, and 26.1.90, one enemy was killed by our land mine and a coy. commander was wounded.

26.1.90, our troops attacked enemy between Maw Kyo Kho and Ler Taw, (2) enemy killed and one wounded. On the same day one enemy D.E. was destroyed by our land mine.

### **G.H.Q. troops**

From 3.1.90 to 8.1.90, our units engaged with enemy four times including one fierce fighting around the (Mae Seik), (Ma Eh), Lawkawtea Takawpipae in the KNLA's seventh brigade area resulted (16) enemy soldiers killed including one major and (42) others wounded including one corporal. Our troops captured one carbine, one hand grenade, (160) rounds of .30 carbine ammos and some other military equipments.

From 17.1.90 to 27.1.90, our troops engaged with enemy four times near the Maeplaw, Maoh-ha, Ta Toe Kwe Law villages resulted (12) enemy soldiers killed including one corporal and (19) others wounded. In this engagement our units captured one enemy carbine but a soldier of our troops sacrificed his life for the nation and two others wounded.

On 6.2.90, an attack by our units on a troop of enemy soldiers from the No. 6 Light Infantry regiment near the (Seepalea) village suffered in seven enemy soldiers killed including one major. In this attack our units captured (3) G.3 rifles (1) carbine and (1) M. 79 grenade launcher.





*Seeing Pi Pi Emma on Her 85<sup>th</sup> (or) last birth day ceremony*



*ABSDF Chairman Moe Thee Zon and delegates.*



*Over Seas Karen organization secretary and delegates.*



*Special delegates of NDF at DAB Central Committee Emergency meeting.*



*K.I.O delegates at DAB Central Committee Emergency meeting.*