

3 Months' Immunity

She explained that the demand for 3 months' immunity to emissaries of underground forces returning to the jungle in the event of the peace negotiations breaking down was based upon practical considerations.

"Government's troops are highly mechanized, whereas ours and those of our colleagues underground are not. Therefore, when our emissaries return to their jungle headquarters, they will have to do so on foot, trekking through thick forests and tackling rugged mountains and steep valleys. Their progress cannot therefore be more than a mile a day. They cannot have gone very far at the end of the three days' immunity and will thus be an easy prey to Government troops who might pursue them in, say, helicopters. For this reason, we have asked for a 3-month immunity in lieu of the present 3-day immunity."

In conclusion, Ma Ngwe San said that the military strength of the Red-Flag Communist Party was infinitesimal when compared to that of the Revolutionary Government. Yet, the Party still existed, and that was because of the high morale and deep political conviction of its members.

She added that the "civil war" would not have broken out had former Governments of Burma permitted fundamental freedoms to the people,

such as freedom of belief and freedom of expression. The lesson, she said, should be carefully borne in mind by the Revolutionary Government.

Sinzwe Massacres

When a newsman asked who was the culprit for the massacre of over 80 men, women and children at Sinzwe Village, Pakokku District, some three years ago, Ma Ngwe San said that the Red-Flag Communist Party was responsible for this act. However, up to the present the Party had regarded this act as being justified.

She explained that some villagers of Sinzwe had tried to "liquidate" the Party with the assistance of Government troops. Some of them had murdered the "Medical Officer" of the Party and sent the severed head of this unfortunate man to the Party HQ. The Party had therefore called upon the village to expose the culprit or culprits for this murder. The village however refused to do so, and that was the reason why the Party had to send a punitive force to the village to "punish" some of the village leaders. That women and children were also killed at the time was something to be regretted, but it all happened when the men of the Party were in a highly violent mood.

Bo Kyaw Win also spoke, mainly to stress the point that truth, rather than military prowess, was the main strength of any organization.

Thakin Soe And Party Arrive For Peace Parleys With Govt.

WARM WELCOME GIVEN AT AIRPORT

From Our Staff Reporter

Thakin Soe, President of the Red-Flag Communist Party, arrived in Rangoon yesterday leading a 17-member delegation of peace parleys with the Revolutionary Council.

He and his party, consisting of 20 persons, were given a safe conduct down to Akyab from a place called Rahtaung in a naval vessel early yesterday morning. Arriving at Akyab at 10 a.m., they were given their midday meal by Lieutenant-Colonel Tun Ohn, Commanding Officer of the Combined Forces at Arakan. Escorted by the Officer, they left Akyab in a special BAF plane in the afternoon, arriving in Rangoon at 3-45 p.m.

They were given a warm welcome at the Mingaladon Airport by ranking Army Officers headed by Lt.-Col. Chit Khin of the Defence Ministry.

An advance peace mission of the Party, led by Bo Kyaw Win and Daw Ngwe San, had visited Rangoon on June 26 and had had preliminary talks with the Government. This mission was next sent back, under security escort, to their underground headquarters where they discussed with the Central Committee of the Party the result of the talks they had with the Government in Rangoon.

The present delegation, headed by Thakin Soe, consists of Central Committee members of the Party and has come to negotiate with the Government on the "Central" level.

A veteran politician, Thakin Soe ranks with the late General Aung San, former Prime Minister U Nu and AFPFL President U Ba Swe in "seniority". He has been underground for the last 16 years.

He is the first of the Communists in the entire world to have denounced Nikita Khrushchev of being a revisionist guilty of retreating back to capitalism. In 1956, he "tried" Khrushchev *in absentia* at his jungle hide out and sentenced the latter to death. He is a staunch Stalinist.

Reopening Of Talks With Red-Flags

14 LEFTIST ORGNS. URGE IN JOINT STATEMENT

From Our Staff Reporter

Fourteen leftist organizations, with more or less identical ideology to that of the Red-Flag Communist Party, came out with a joint statement yesterday protesting against the breaking-off of the peace talks between the Revolutionary Government and the Party.

The statement urged that ways and means should be found to reopen negotiations with the Red-Flags.

"The breaking off of talks by the Revolutionary Government is an act contrary to the wishes of the people who, for 15 years, have demanded termination of the civil war through negotiations. At the same time, such an act could prolong the civil war," the statement said.

It also urged the Government to have patience in dealing with underground organizations.

The 14 organizations which issued the statement are (1) Mon People's Front (2) New Arakanese Thawtuzana Organization (3) Sangha Front (4) Bawathi Workers' Federation (5) Burma Pathi Congress (6) Workers' Front (7) New Students' Front (8) New ABFSU (9) New ARSU (10) Poets' Association (11) People's Thanmani Association (12) Action Committee for Release of Arrested Persons (13) Youth Front (Burma) and (14) Marxist Study Group.

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