

PP

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Dear Bertil,

Many thanks for your letter of the 20th December.

I am delighted we agree on at least 90% of the manuscript and the remaining 10% I am sure could be sorted out.

First of all I agree on the title you suggested. I rather use Yan Li as you know the life of a book is eternal irrespective of the circumstances.

I also agree to the structure of the book in chapters. However, where would the epilogue come under in this structure.

I shall start on the new chapter one and also as you suggest on the chapter on 'Kokang Today'.

Re: Nationalist Chinese- According to Kokang Chronicles I am in possession of 3 volumes of Kokang history started in 1953 completed in 1958 by an Editorial Committee of Kokang officials, and handwritten in brushstrokes on bamboo paper, a lot of my data comes from these chronicles which had been translated from the original Chinese) and I quote:

May, 1952 -Guerilla forces(KMT) continued their activity in all areas, leading to questions of international scope which the Burmese government was unable to stop. Sha Liu Hu (northern Kokang) was already in a state of anarchy and completely at their mercy.

Oct. 1952- The Chaofa received secret orders from the Burmese Government to return to Kokang to organize a joint defense force to pursue and destroy the guerilla troops. Immediately a people's militia was drafted to enlarge the operation and by the end of 1953 the entire area had a troop strength of over one thousand.

Jan. 1953- Beginning in January the entire area around the river ferries was blockaded, troops were garrisoned there and all pedestrian activity was strictly forbidden. While Burmese government troops guarded the west bank of Kunlong.

Feb. 1953- The suppression of lawless elements within Kokang's borders began and the people were able to return to their old profession. The area became peaceful and calm.

Mar. 1953- To investigate Sino/Burmeses border and to assess the actual damage caused to Kokang, the Burmese government sent a delegation to Kokang headed by Internal Affairs Minister (name not provided as translator not familiar with Burmese politics or names)

Thus from the above account I deduct that the KMTs would have left or at least Kokang is firmly in control enough to invite a Burmese delegation to inspect the war damages. From what I have read of the KMT presence in Burma they were based in Tachilek/Kengtung area. I have yet to read accounts of their bases in Kokang.

Regarding Jimmy Yang's relation with Li Wen Huan I am not sure when it began. From 1950 Jimmy was mostly in Rangoon and return to Kokang infrequently. How this relationship was sustained I don't know. It may be the simple fact that Li Wen Huan was from Zhenkhang. People from Zhenkhang have trade relations with Kokang for centuries being a neighbouring state and speaking the same dialect and follow the same traditions.

As for Jimmy's close relations with Li Wen Huan I would not put much weight on it. One has to know the Chinese character to understand the relationship. No doubt Li Wen Huan contributed to U Nu's booty not because of Jimmy's influence but I suspect Li wanted to exert his own influence on the Burmese Pro-democracy group through Jimmy. You must also remember that during the WW2 Kokang's relations with some of the KMT generals and their staff had not been very good and this ill feeling prevailed up to the 60's among some of Kokang troops. When I was in Chiangmai in 1994 it was even suggested to me that the rebellion started by Yang Kyein Nye against Jimmy was instigated by the KMTs. You see the KMTs would like to play the dual role of saviour and devil so as to stoke up confusion and disunity within Kokang troops in order to control the Kokang troops. History has provened this. Everyone wants to control Kokang because of its strategic position be they Burmese, Chinese communists, KMTs or CIA.

Chronology

The corrected version:

- 1657 Yang Gao Shu arrived at Tali (Dali). At some point I think we have to decide which to use Tali Or Dali(which is the Pinyin)
- 1682 yang Ying married a Miss Yang and became prosperous trading in tea.
- 1739. Shin Da Hu was the embryonic area under Yang Shein Tsai(it was not called Kokang then)
- 1758. Fan Ma Chan is a village in the north of Kokang which translates to Horse grazing field.
- 1795 Yang Wei Shin ...was succeeded by his son as Tu Ssu(in Chinese or Heng in Shan) whatever you wish to use.
- 1897 ATM is an acronym of a Burmese native title, Ahmudan Gaung Tazeik Ya Min which was a gold medal the British confer on native leaders.
- 1920 Yang Chuan Yon succeeded his uncle Yang Guo Zhen
- 1930 This I need to check
- 1942 This has been described in the Japanese period.
- 1944 After the Khu Cai Ling rebellion Yang Wen Pin travelled to Zhenkhang where the Chinese troop were garrisoned to obtain the true situation from the horses mouth so to speak. he was then detained and consequently charged with treason. This episode is described in detail under Khu Cai Ling.
- 1952 Very few details is written in this. Further investigation is required .

Yes I admit my footnotes are very confusing simply because some of the footnotes are out of date as I continue to amend the drafts. Of course I shall check them in the future.

I can provide all the photographs already in the manuscript and a lot of documents from the India Office collection pertaining to Kokang if required.

As for a short bio of myself I shall provide that later.

Best wishes,

Sack

cc: To Kuley