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25 March

Cablegrams addressed to the Sec. Gen. by Sao Hkun Hkio

(Minister for Foreign Affairs, Burma)

(Complaint by the Union of Burma regarding aggression against her by the Kuomintang government of Formosa)

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



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Seventh session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN  
THE AGENDA OF THE SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION:  
ITEM PROPOSED BY BURMA

COMPLAINT BY THE UNION OF BURMA REGARDING AGGRESSION  
AGAINST HER BY THE KUOMINTANG GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA

Cablegram dated 25 March 1953 addressed to the Secretary-General  
by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Burma

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO REQUEST THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE PLACED ON THE  
AGENDA OF THE CURRENT SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED  
NATIONS.

"COMPLAINT BY THE UNION OF BURMA REGARDING AGGRESSION AGAINST HER  
BY THE KUOMINTANG GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA".

DETAILS OF THE REQUEST WHICH ALSO INDICATE THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY ARE  
GIVEN IN THE FOLLOWING EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM:

"IN 1949, WHEN THE KUOMINTANG DEBACLE TOOK PLACE SOME KUOMINTANG TROOPS  
FLED TOWARDS THE SOUTHWEST AND SOME THOUSAND CROSSED THE BORDER INTO  
INDOCHINA WHERE THEY WERE DISARMED AND INTERNED. EARLY IN 1950, SOME 1700  
CROSSED THE BORDER INTO THE KENGtung STATE OF BURMA. THEY PREYED UPON THE  
COUNTRYSIDE AND CAUSED GREAT HARDSHIP TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE LOCALITY BY  
THEIR DEMANDS FOR FOOD TRANSPORT AND SERVICES. UNITS OF THE BURMESE ARMY  
CONTACTED THESE TROOPS AND DEMANDED THAT THEY SHOULD EITHER LEAVE BURMESE  
TERRITORY FORTHWITH OR SUBMIT TO DISARMAMENT AND INTERNMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
INTERNATIONAL LAW. QUITE APART FROM THE INFRINGEMENT OF BURMESE TERRITORIAL  
INTEGRITY WHICH NO SELF-RESPECTING NATION COULD TOLERATE THERE WAS THE OBVIOUS  
DANGER THAT THE PRESENCE IN BURMA OF THE KUOMINTANG INTRUDERS MIGHT LEAD TO  
GRAVE INTERNATIONAL COMPLICATIONS. ON THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS REFUSING TO COMPLY

WITH EITHER OF THESE ALTERNATIVES, UNITS OF THE BURMESE ARMY TOOK OFFENSIVE ACTION IN ORDER TO COMPEL COMPLIANCE WITH THEIR DEMANDS.

AFTER SEVERAL ENGAGEMENTS IN THE LATTER HALF OF 1950 THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS WERE DISLODGED FROM THE AREA IN WHICH THEY HAD ESTABLISHED THEMSELVES. IT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY FOUND THAT THEY HAD WITHDRAWN WESTWARD AND HAD ESTABLISHED A NEW HEADQUARTERS AT MONGHSAT NEAR THE BURMA-THAILAND FRONTIER. USING MONGHSAT AS A BASE THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS, UNDER THE COMMAND OF KUOMINTANG GENERAL LI MI, HAVE SINCE THEN BEEN ADDING TO THEIR NUMBERS BY OBTAINING FRESH RECRUITS FROM THE BURMA-YUNNAN BORDER AREA. FOR THIS PURPOSE AGENTS WERE SENT TO PLACES LIKE THE KOKANG AND WA STATES ON THAT BORDER. THE NEW RECRUITS SO OBTAINED WERE TRAINED AND ARMED WITH NEW WEAPONS WHICH COULD ONLY HAVE COME FROM SOURCES OUTSIDE BURMA. THE AIRSTRIP AT MONGHSAT WAS CONVERTED INTO AN AIRFIELD AND IT IS KNOWN THAT PLANES BRINGING IN SUPPLIES HAVE LANDED THERE WITH SOME REGULARITY. BY THIS PROCESS THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS THROUGHOUT THE AREA OF THE KENG TUNG STATE INCREASED RAPIDLY IN NUMBERS, UNTIL TODAY THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED 12,000 KUOMINTANG TROOPS IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE UNION OF BURMA. DURING THIS PERIOD THE BURMESE ARMY, DESPITE ITS PREOCCUPATION WITH MORE PRESSING INTERNAL PROBLEMS ENGAGED THE ENEMY WHEREVER POSSIBLE. THIS, HOWEVER, WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO REMOVE THE PROBLEM PRESENTED BY THE ACTIVITIES OF THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS IN THE KENG TUNG AREA.

TOWARDS THE END OF 1951, GENERAL LI MI RETURNED TO FORMOSA AND HIS PLACE WAS TAKEN BY ANOTHER KUOMINTANG GENERAL LIU KUO CHUAN. SINCE THEN, GENERAL LI MI HAS BEEN MOVING BETWEEN FORMOSA AND MONGHSAT. THIS AND OTHER EVIDENCE ESTABLISHES THAT THERE IS A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS IN BURMA AND THE KUOMINTANG GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA.

UNTIL ABOUT THE END OF 1952 THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS HAD RESTRICTED THEIR ACTIVITIES TO THE AREAS EAST OF THE SALWEEN RIVER. BEGINNING WITH THE CLOSING MONTHS OF 1952 FRESHLY TRAINED AND RE-EQUIPPED KUOMINTANG TROOPS BEGAN TO EXTEND THEIR ACTIVITIES TO AREAS WEST OF THE SALWEEN RIVER. NEARLY 1000 OF THEM INFILTRATED INTO MAWCHI AND AREAS SOUTH OF IT AND ESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH ELEMENTS WHO WERE ENGAGED IN ACTIVE REBELLION AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF BURMA. THIS CONTACT DEVELOPED INTO A REGULAR ALLIANCE IN WHICH KUOMINTANG TROOPS AND INSURGENT ELEMENTS FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE AGAINST THE FORCES OF THE

GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF BURMA. IN THE SAME PERIOD CONSIDERABLE NUMBERS OF KUOMINTANG TROOPS MOVED NORTHWESTWARD CROSSING THE SALWEEN AND ATTACKING ISOLATED GOVERNMENT OUTPOST ON THEIR WAY AND TRIED TO ESTABLISH THEMSELVES IN THE AREA SOUTH OF BHAMO. THEY WERE ENGAGED BY UNITS OF THE BURMESE ARMY AND DRIVEN SOUTHWARD. ANOTHER CONSIDERABLE BODY OF KUOMINTANG TROOPS CROSSED THE SALWEEN RIVER TO ATTACK NONGHSU STATE FROM WHICH THEY ARE NOW BEING DRIVEN OUT BY UNITS OF THE BURMESE ARMY.

WHEREVER THEY HAVE GONE THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS HAVE PREYED ON THE COUNTRYSIDE AND INSTITUTED A VERITABLE REIGN OF TERROR LOOTING, PILLAGING, RAPING AND MURDERING INCLUDING THE MURDERING OF CIVILIAN OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

EVER SINCE THE MIDDLE OF 1950, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF BURMA HAS ENLISTED THE GOOD OFFICES OF SOME FRIENDLY COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO EFFECT THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS OR TO INDUCE THEM TO SUBMIT TO DISARMAMENT AND INTERNMENT. IN PARTICULAR, THE UNITED STATES WAS REQUESTED TO MAKE REPEATED DEMARCHES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA SINCE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF BURMA HAD SEVERED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE LATTER GOVERNMENT. UNFORTUNATELY, THESE ATTEMPTS TO FIND A SOLUTION THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS HAVE SO FAR PROVED UNSUCCESSFUL.

THE POSITION TODAY THEREFORE IS THAT BURMA NOW HAS ON HER SOIL APPROXIMATELY 12,000 KUOMINTANG TROOPS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN WHAT IS NO LESS THAN AGGRESSION. THIS AGGRESSION IS INDICATED BY THE REFUSAL OF THE KUOMINTANG FORCES TO SUBMIT TO DISARMAMENT AND INTERNMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW BY THEIR ACTS OF HOSTILITIES AGAINST THE FORCES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF BURMA AND BY THEIR DEPREDACTIONS AGAINST THE CIVILIAN POPULATION. IT IS CLEAR THAT IN ENGAGING IN THESE ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES THE KUOMINTANG TROOPS ARE BEING DIRECTED AND SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA.

FACED WITH THIS AGGRESSION ON THE PART OF THE KUOMINTANG GOVERNMENT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF BURMA HAS DECIDED TO TAKE THE MATTER UP FORMALLY TO THE UNITED NATIONS".

THE TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION WHICH THE DELEGATION OF BURMA PROPOSES TO SUBMIT IS AS FOLLOWS:

"THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

"HAVING CONSIDERED THE COMPLAINT SUBMITTED TO IT BY THE DELEGATION OF BURMA CONCERNING THE PRESENCE AND HOSTILE ACTIVITIES OF THE ARMED TROOPS OF THE KUOMINTANG GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA WITHIN THE TERRITORIES OF THE UNION OF BURMA,

"VIEWING WITH GRAVE CONCERN THE SERIOUS SITUATION THE CONTINUANCE OF WHICH WOULD PRESENT A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY,

"1. NOTES THAT BY THEIR PRESENCE WITHIN THE TERRITORIES OF THE UNION OF BURMA THEIR FAILURE TO SUBMIT TO DISARMAMENT AND INTERNMENT AS REQUIRED BY INTERNATIONAL LAW THEIR ACTS OF HOSTILITY AGAINST THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNION OF BURMA AND THEIR DEPREDATIONS AGAINST THE CIVILIAN POPULATION THEREIN THE ARMED TROOPS OF THE KUOMINTANG GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA HAVE COMMITTED ACTS OF INFRINGEMENT AGAINST THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE UNION OF BURMA AND ACTS OF VIOLATION OF ITS FRONTIERS;

"2. RECOMMENDS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL

(a) TO CONDEMN THE KUOMINTANG GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA FOR THE SAID ACTS OF AGGRESSION, AND

(b) TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO ENSURE IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF THE ACTS OF AGGRESSION BY THE KUOMINTANG GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA AGAINST THE UNION OF BURMA;

"3. CALLS UPON ALL STATES TO RESPECT THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNION OF BURMA AND TO BE GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE UNION OF BURMA".

SIGNED: SAO HKUN HKIO, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF BURMA.

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