

organizations in Singapore and Bangkok had decided to allocate 600,000 U.S. dollars to maintain these troops in Burma. There were some 6,000 troops along the Thai-Burmese border ostensibly for an anti-communist drive but primarily in order to enrich themselves by controlling the opium trade and manufacturing counterfeit currency notes. Burma was grateful for the strong moral support of the United Nations, which had contributed to easing the problem and which it hoped would continue.

Also before the Assembly was the final report of the Joint Military Committee, composed of delegations from China, Thailand, and the United States, Burma having withdrawn from the Committee in September 1953. This report reviewed the operations of the Committee from its first meeting on 22 May 1953 until its formal dissolution on 1 September 1954. It gave details of the three phases of evacuation and listed the following number of troops and dependents evacuated and weapons turned in to the Committee: first phase (7 November to 8 December 1953) 2,260 persons, 200 weapons; second phase (14 February to 21 March 1954) 3,475 persons, 836 weapons; third phase (1 to 9 May) 820 persons, 265 weapons. In addition, 17 persons had been evacuated during April and on 24 August 51 troops and dependents who had been in the custody of the Thai police were evacuated from Thailand and 22 weapons were surrendered. A total of 177 prisoners in the custody of the Burmese army were evacuated on 18 April, and 186 refugees, 175 on 21 April and 11 who were processed during the second phase and left from Bangkok, were also evacuated. The total number of persons evacuated was 6,986 and of weapons surrendered 1,323, of which 822 weapons were shipped to Taiwan. The totals of ammunition surrendered were: 49,252 small arms, 157 HE mortars and 40 hand grenades.

The report drew attention to the joint meetings of the Committee with representatives of the foreign forces. During the second phase of the operations, it stated, the cease-fire problem had to some extent slowed down the progress of evacuation. Burma had agreed at the Committee's request to extend the cease fire to 31 March in certain areas, but in other

areas only until 15 March. The evacuation had, however, been continued on the schedule established prior to the inception of Burmese military operations in the area.

Following negotiations for the release and evacuation of foreign forces, military prisoners and Chinese refugees held and/or interned in Burma, Burma had delivered military prisoners and refugees, who were air-lifted to Taiwan in April.

The third phase of the evacuation, which was from the Myawadi area, was made possible when the Burmese forces on 17 April gained control of Myawadi and the surrounding area, permitting them to guarantee a safety corridor from Palu to the Burmese border at Myawadi.

On 11 May the Chinese representative in the Joint Committee had declared that his Government had no desire to maintain any relations with those foreign forces which had chosen to remain behind, but that China would work with the other Governments concerned in the evacuation of any more foreign forces who were willing to leave Burma. All members of the Joint Military Committee had agreed on 1 June 1954 to continue to explore ways and means to contact and evacuate the remaining foreign forces. On 3 June the last group of the foreign forces delegation which assisted the Committee in the last two phases of the evacuation left Bangkok. Before leaving they had issued a press release stating that all foreign forces along the Yunnan-Burma borders had been evacuated; the foreign forces delegation had severed relations with those foreign forces which had been unwilling to evacuate; and that delegation would not be responsible for future guerrilla activities on the part of the Yunnanese in those border areas.

The Committee had agreed to maintain evacuation facilities until 1 September 1954 and on 29 July issued a press release to this effect, cleared by all the Governments concerned. So as to give the remaining forces an opportunity to return to Taiwan, the Committee proposed to the Government of Burma on 29 July 1954 an airdrop of leaflets; the Burmese text of the proposed leaflet was approved by the full Committee on 18 August, and on 23 August 12,000 copies were delivered to the Burmese Embassy in Bangkok, but it was not