



564. *Chairman*: But in spite of that you still wish to remain out of the Kachin State ?

U Po Ti: We want to be out of the Kachin State because we are Burmans.

565. *Chairman*: Is there anything else any of you would like to say ?

U Saw Yi: I should like to add a little, because I am not satisfied with the questions, put by Sima Hsinwa Nawng. For a very long time, history relates that the Kachins have been in the Burmese nation on a friendly basis and, now that Burma is to be liberated I do not see any reason why they cannot behave in the same way and come into Burma again. Since they want to be a separate State, for the same reason we want to be outside their State. I am prepared to answer any question the *Duwa* wants to put, Sir.

566. *Sima Hsinwa Nawng*: If that is your opinion we cannot do anything but to give a patient hearing to what you have to say.

U Saw Yi: If the Shans, Chins and Kachins would like to come into Burma proper, we would give them more privileges than the Burmans themselves.

567. *Sima Hsinwa Nawng*: We do not mean that we do not want to unite with Burma in the future—we might perhaps. We have now decided on an experiment thinking that it would be the best course, in present circumstances, for the Kachins. If in spite of that, the Burmans of Bhamo wish to remain out, we cannot help but note their views.

U Saw Yi: We have never been consulted about the future of Bhamo by the frontier people. We have come here from Bhamo because we have been beaten from the back ; and because we are hurt we have to come here. Bhamo District is under a Deputy Commissioner and the Kachin population is barely 1 per cent. The *Duwa* can imagine how we feel when we are not consulted in such a matter. It is really difficult for us to consider whether it is for good or for ill.

568. *Sima Hsinwa Nawng*: We admit that we are in the wrong, because we have not consulted you in the first instance. The reason was that we were very busy at that time. But we told Bogyoke Aung San about it and we are now placing our case before you. We believe in U Aung San because he is in the Government and he represents the A.F.P.F.L. which represents the people.

U Saw Yi: When Burma attains freedom she should either be an independent State or a Dominion. I don't wish to see her subdivided into A B C D and so on. That is why we oppose the formation of a Kachin State.

569. *Chairman*: Is there anything else you wish to say, gentlemen ?

Witnesses: There is nothing, Sir. Thank you.

[The Chairman thanked the witnesses who then withdrew.]



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