

## The Truth revealed by Truck driver's assistant

My name is Kyaw Lwin. My age, 30. I am working as a "Spare" (driver's assistant) on the Nissan truck UD 2 Registration NO: (khakwe/1962). The driver is Ko Nyo.

The nominal owners of the vehicle are U San Myint and Daw Marlaryi. In fact and in truth it is the property of the Military Intelligence in Yesagyo.

Our normal business is to transport goods from Rangoon to Monywa. The point of departure in Rangoon is from Maung Myint's gate at Bayinaung-Khaye Road, Rangoon (phone 68 1229).

We were still in Monywa at the close of May having taken goods there. The North West Army Command based there requisitioned 10 wheeler trucks (including ours) from the 28<sup>th</sup> May and we had to keep them parked in their North West Army Command compound at Monywa.

This is what happened on the 30<sup>th</sup> May.

An army captain (in civvies) climbed into the front compartment. Communication accessories were put on the truck. Then about 50 persons boarded the back compartment. Some were in monk's robes, others in civvies. After that the truck was covered with a canvas cloth and orders were given to drive off.

It was about 7:00 p.m. when we left the North West Army Command compound. We were ordered to drive towards Depayin, Ye-U side. About 2 to 3 miles from Depayin, it was 8:30 or 9 pm, I saw a noisy crowd where people were being thrashed mercilessly. The captain made the driver keep the headlights on and ordered the men in the truck to get down and join in thrashing the people in the crowd.

There was just the driver, the captain and I left on the truck.

I saw the beatings were delivered relentlessly and savagely. It was most frightening. Have never seen anything like this in my lifetime. It was a one-sided attack.

There were people running, shouting, screaming and falling on the ground with blood all over them.

Some fallen bodies were carried and placed near our truck. I do not know who they were. They could have been persons who were brought in our truck.

I saw the captain in the front compartment of our truck speaking on the phone and saying "Yes, General, Yes, Yes."

He then ordered me to carry the dead bodies into the truck. At the same time I saw him fire 3 or 4 times from his revolver into the crowd at the front.

I carried 17 bodies into the truck. All were bloodied. Some could have been lifeless, some could have been still alive.

After that the truck had to be driven back. The people who were brought there were not brought back on the bus. I do not know what happened there afterwards. I saw the other 10 wheeler trucks at the scene of crime but can not say what they had to do.

When we arrived at Ahlone village, we were ordered to stop and to remove the 17 dead bodies on the side of the road and then to drive on to the North West Army Command compound. The captain gave the orders.

There was food and liquor ready prepared for us when we got back to the compound. We ate. Then we were given 30000 kyats each. The truck was driven away by another person. We were told that it would not be for long. But, it was returned the next day (31<sup>st</sup> May) in the evening.

We washed the car on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June and crubbed out the stains. We offered "soon" (food) to the monks. I don't know what happened to the bodies we left by the side of the road at Ahlon. We heard that the bodies were burnt. Now we are operating from the gate as before.

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