

INFORMATION REPORT
SECRET

CD NO.

COUNTRY Burma

DATE DISTR. 13 MAY 1949

SUBJECT Biographical Information: Thakin Than Tun,
General Secretary of the Burma Communist Party (BCP)
25X1A6a

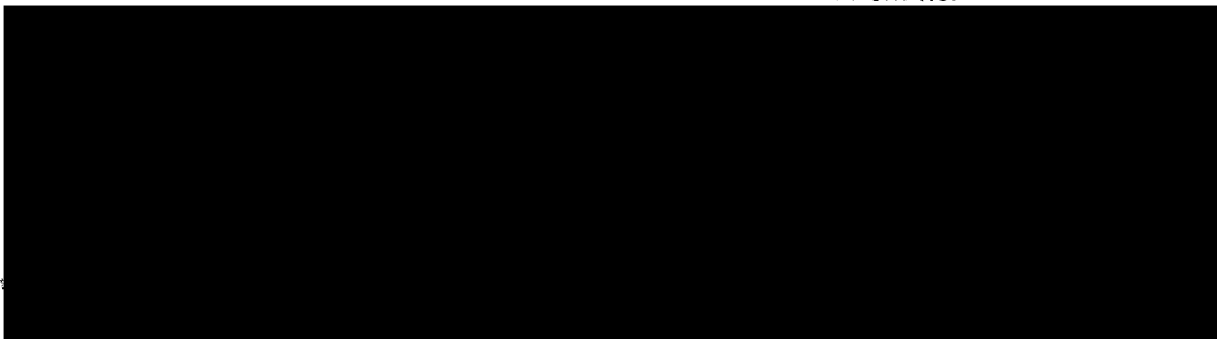
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



1. Thakin THAN TUN was born in Burma in 1916. He is the son of U PO MAUNG, Kanyu Hzwun, Toungoo District, and is married to the sister of Mrs. AUNG SAN.
2. THAN TUN's early career was uneventful. In 1938 he was a school teacher in Rangoon and during this time he joined the Dobama Asi Ayone (DAA), of which he later became Secretary. He was also, for a time, the Secretary of the Youth Improvement Society. In 1941 he was detained under the Burma Defence Rules and, following the Japanese occupation, held a post in BA MAW's Government for a period.
3. Like many of the young Burmese intelligentsia, THAN TUN was interested in Communism and had studied it. Following the re-occupation he helped to found the BCP. In 1945 he was elected Secretary of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (AFPFL). In July 1945 he presided as chairman at the first BCP Congress, which declared its complete sympathy with the aims of the AFPFL. On 20 July 1946 he resigned his post in AFPFL and became General Secretary of the BCP. During this period he also became President of the All Burma Peasants' Union. He was warned by the Government for a number of extreme speeches he made at this time.
4. THAN TUN advocated unity between the BCP and the AFPFL to "drive out the Imperialists," and initiated propaganda to this effect. Following AUNG SAN's assassination he was responsible for a determined attempt to cast the blame on the Government. His position on Anglo-Burmese Treaty has been one of consistent and vigorous opposition. In 1948 he attended the Second Party Congress of the Communist Party of India (CPI), and went underground in March of the same year.
5. THAN TUN is well-informed and widely read politically. He has no stomach for hardship and has been reported to fear imprisonment. He is something of a visionary but has, nevertheless, the ability to achieve practical solutions of current problems.
6. THAN TUN previously held passport No. 918 issued 21 January 1947.

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 Class. CHANGED TO: TS S (C)
 DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77
 Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763