



LEFT: Buddhist monks and novices join in the anti-government march in Kawthaung.

BELOW: With portraits of Aung San, Burma's founding father, and U Thant, former UN secretary general, at the head of the column, demonstrators march in Kawthaung to demand democracy.

NATIONPHOTOS

Thousands march in Kawthaung

Yindee Lertcharoenchok
in Kawthaung, Burma

ABOUT 4,000 people from all walks of life marched in this Burmese coastal border town yesterday as part of the nationwide demonstrations against the Rangoon government and the campaign for democracy in Burma. The people converged in the town's football field at dawn. They came from all the five villages of the town, many walking up to 10 kms to attend the rally, while others travelled by trucks.

They included students, ranging from elementary to university levels, Buddhist monks, lawyers, doctors and nurses, customs and immigration officials and firemen, etc. Most of them were dressed in their professional uniforms.

They wore a red headbands and armbands to identify themselves as protesters.

At the football field, several speakers took turns denouncing the Rangoon government, Ne Win and the Burmese Socialist Programme Party, etc., and reiterated their intention to continue their non-violent struggle against the government for democracy.

U Dama Biya, a Buddhist monk of Town Baw yaung Temple, said in his speech that the government forbids the people to use foreign goods. But the government and the party people burn their homes with a lot of luxurious foreign goods.

"The only Burmese goods in their homes are their children who are made in Burma," he said. The crowd applauded with approval.



06/11/95 13:47/0022