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# **GENERAL NE WIN**

**A POLITICAL BIOGRAPHY**

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# **GENERAL NE WIN**

**A POLITICAL BIOGRAPHY**

**ROBERT TAYLOR**



**INSTITUTE OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES**  
Singapore

First published in Singapore in 2015 by  
ISEAS Publishing  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies  
30 Heng Mui Keng Terrace, Pasir Panjang  
Singapore 119614

*E-mail:* [publish@iseas.edu.sg](mailto:publish@iseas.edu.sg) • *Website:* [bookshop.iseas.edu.sg](http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg)

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**ISEAS Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data**

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Taylor, Robert.

General Ne Win : a political biography.

1. Ne Win, U, 1911–2002.
  2. Prime ministers—Myanmar—Biography.
  3. Heads of state—Myanmar—Biography.
  4. Burma—Politics and government—1962–1988.
- I. Title

DS530.53 N54T24                      2015

ISBN 978-981-4620-13-0 (soft cover)

ISBN 978-981-4620-14-7 (E-book PDF)

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*Cover photo:* Ne Win in the 1950s. Reproduced with kind permission of the author.

Typeset by International Typesetters Pte Ltd  
Printed in Singapore by Markono Print Media Pte Ltd

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I have received much assistance from many people and institutions in the preparation of this volume. I am bound to forget some and overlook others, but I hope they will attribute this to a fallible memory rather than intentional neglect. Professor Ian Brown and Professor Sir Christopher Bayly started this project off when they kindly wrote letters of recommendation to the Leverhulme Trust in support of an application for an Emeritus Fellowship. Thanks to them, the Trust awarded me a grant which subsidized much of the initial archival research in the United States, China, Myanmar, and elsewhere. I am most grateful to the Trust and for their patience and faith that I would eventually return something for their funds. Professor Jane Ridley kindly introduced me to the literature on the art of biography which assisted me on my way.

Indirectly, the City University of Hong Kong subsidized some of the costs of the research work by providing me with a two-year visiting professorship at the Department of Asian and International Studies during 2010 and 2011. More recently, the drafting of the book was completed as a Visiting Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) in Singapore for one year in 2012–13. The Institute, its Directors and staff, over more than three decades, has provided me with research facilities and support for which I am extremely grateful. Back then, before 1988, when few were interested in research on Myanmar, ISEAS recognized that the country was part of Southeast Asia and therefore deserving of study. ISEAS library has been particularly helpful in the final stages of research. Its unparalleled collection of journals and periodicals relevant to modern Southeast Asian history is a memory bank for the region.

A number of individuals in, or connected with, Myanmar have come to my assistance in the writing of this volume. Included among them are the late Dr Myo Myint, Ma Thanegi, U Thuta Aung, U Sonny Nyunt Thein, U Sai Aung Tun, U Thein Nyunt, Dr Thant Thaw Kaung, Dr Nyi Nyi, Thakin Tin Mya, U Chit Hlaing, Dr Tin Maung Maung Than, U Nay Win, Professor Tin Aung, Professor Elizabeth Moore, Professor Dr Franz Gerstenbrandt, Dr Aung Myoe, Andrew Selth and Dr Ingrid Jordt. Deserving of particular thanks are Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, U Kyee Myint, and U Thaw Kaung. Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing undertook to do many of the interviews with me with persons who worked with General Ne Win throughout his career. U Kyee Myint also assisted with interviewing and note-taking. While Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing is an academic-turned-advisor, U Kyee Myint, a diplomat by profession, was lost to academia, which was perhaps his natural home. Finally, U Thaw Kaung, a retired librarian, historian, literary critic, and research bank extraordinaire, has assisted me in innumerable ways not only with this book but with almost everything else that I have written. Others who assisted me over the years are no longer available to read of my debt to them. U Lay Myint, U Tin Tun, Sagaing Han Tin, U Aye, U Maung Maung (retired Brigadier), Dr Maung Maung, and Dr Kyaw Win would have improved this book tremendously were they still around to help, as they often did in the past. They are greatly missed.

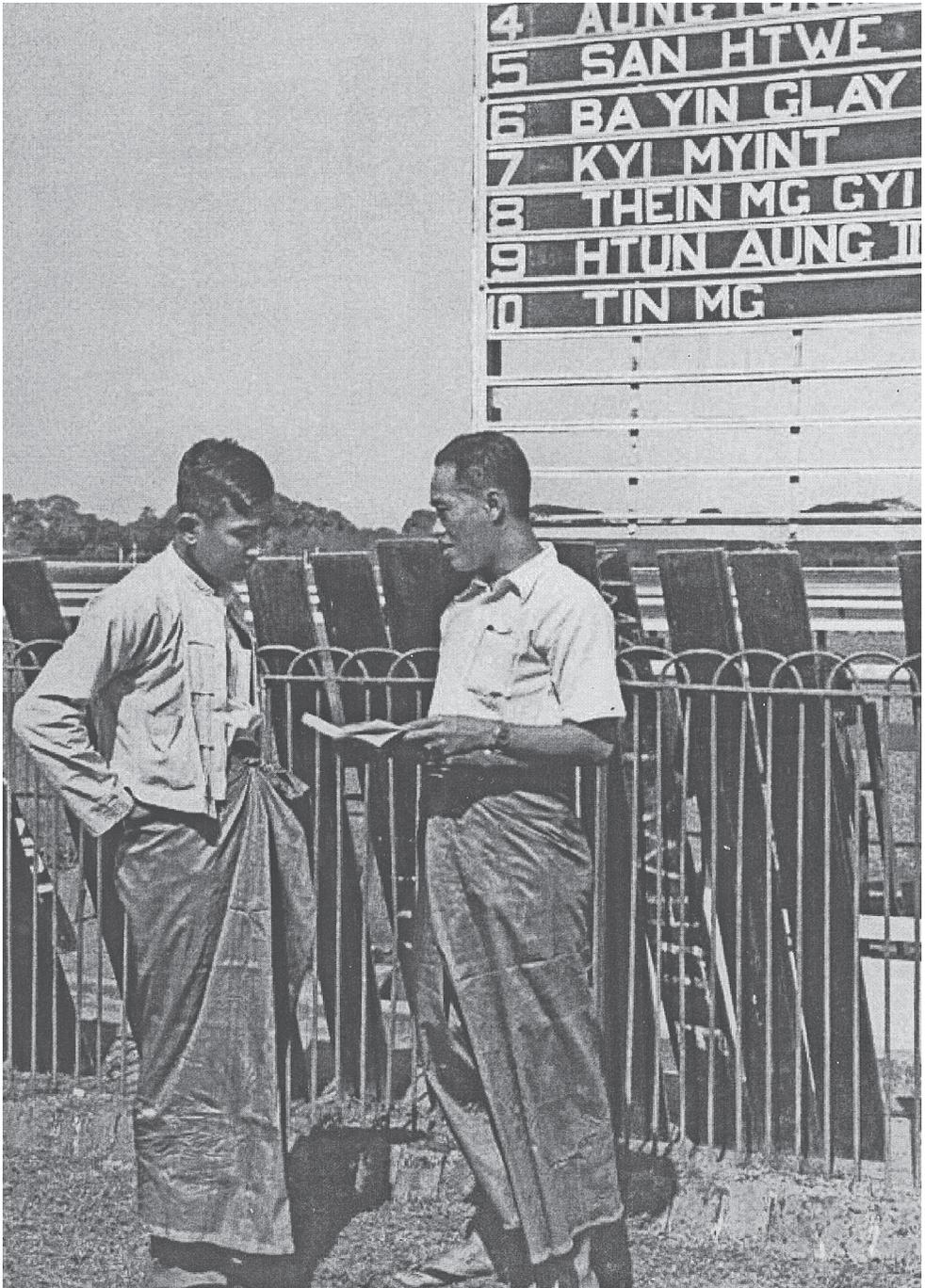
Outside of Myanmar, the archivists and librarians at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C., the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Archives in Austin, Texas, and the Public Record Office in Kew, now for some unknown reason named the National Archives, provided a wealth of assistance. Cliff Callahan mainly helped me to search for details of a number of records in Washington. Dr Kenton Clymer pointed me to a number of useful sources and saved me from error. Dr Hans-Bernd Zoellner was very responsive to my requests for assistance, often beyond what could reasonably be expected. My former student, Dr Choi Dung Ju, extracted documents for me from the South Korean National Archives. In China, I am grateful for assistance from Professor Fan Hongwei and his former students, Li Tong and Qi Tianjiao. These young ladies spent a summer in Beijing visiting the archives and photographing documents for me which greatly enhance this volume. The late Jane Elliot translated the documents. Special thanks are also due to Tobias Esche who spent weeks going through the archives at the German foreign ministry and reading and translating relevant materials for me. His heroic and uncompensated work adds immensely to the Ne Win story.

Special thanks are due to U Pyo Win, General Ne Win's youngest son, and Daw Khin Sanda Win, his daughter with whom he lived in his final years. Pyo kindly came to London for me to interview and ceaselessly answered email queries when questions occurred to me in the course of writing. Daw Khin Sanda Win always received me graciously and was helpful in arranging several interviews and for sharing some of her views with me. Both placed no obstacles in my way, but their own resources were limited by the fact that many of Ne Win's effects were removed from his home in 2002. Aye Ne Win provided me with a number of family photographs, some of which are included in this volume.

In addition to four nearly anonymous readers selected by my publisher, a former student from my days at the School of Oriental and African Studies, Professor Ang Cheng Guan, kindly read and commented on the entire manuscript. He also introduced me to the new literature on the history of the Cold War and particularly the American wars in Indochina, on which he is a renowned authority. Professor Ian Brown saw this book project off from its beginning, and towards the end not only read and commented on the entire manuscript, but also guided me and steadied my hand when I was about to waver. To him, and everyone else mentioned, and should have been mentioned, *thadu, thadu, thadu*. Finally, thanks to my wife, Ingrid, for tolerating my frequent absences from my domestic responsibilities to pursue my reveries. Needless to say, all errors of fact, omission, and interpretation are mine and mine alone.

*Robert H. Taylor*  
*London*  
*17 March 2014*

## 1950s



Ne Win at the Rangoon Turf Club, 1950s, betting on the jockeys, not the horses.

*Source:* All photos are reproduced with kind permission of the author.



Ne Win and the Caretaker Cabinet, 1958.



(last row): Daw Khin May Than, Nikita Khrushchev, Ne Win, and Andrei Gromyko  
(front rows): Daw Khin May Than's three daughters from a previous marriage, and her and Ne Win's two daughters and son at the Chief of Staff's residence, 1960.

# 1960s Cold War Statesman



Ne Win meeting Mao Tse-tung.



Ne Win and Daw Khin May Than being received at Beijing airport by Chinese Premier Chou En-lai.





Ne Win, Daw Khin May Than,  
and Justice Myint Thein receiving  
President Win Maung and Marshall  
Tito, 1959.



Ne Win meeting UN Secretary  
General U Thant in New York, 1966.



Ne Win with Queen Sirikit of Thailand, toasting at a state banquet.



Daw Khin May Than with King Bhumipol of Thailand at a state banquet.



Ne Win meeting Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.



Ne Win and US President Johnson shaking hands in the Rose Garden of the White House as their wives look on.



Ne Win meeting  
the Emperor of Japan.



Ne Win and Daw Khin May Than in Japan.

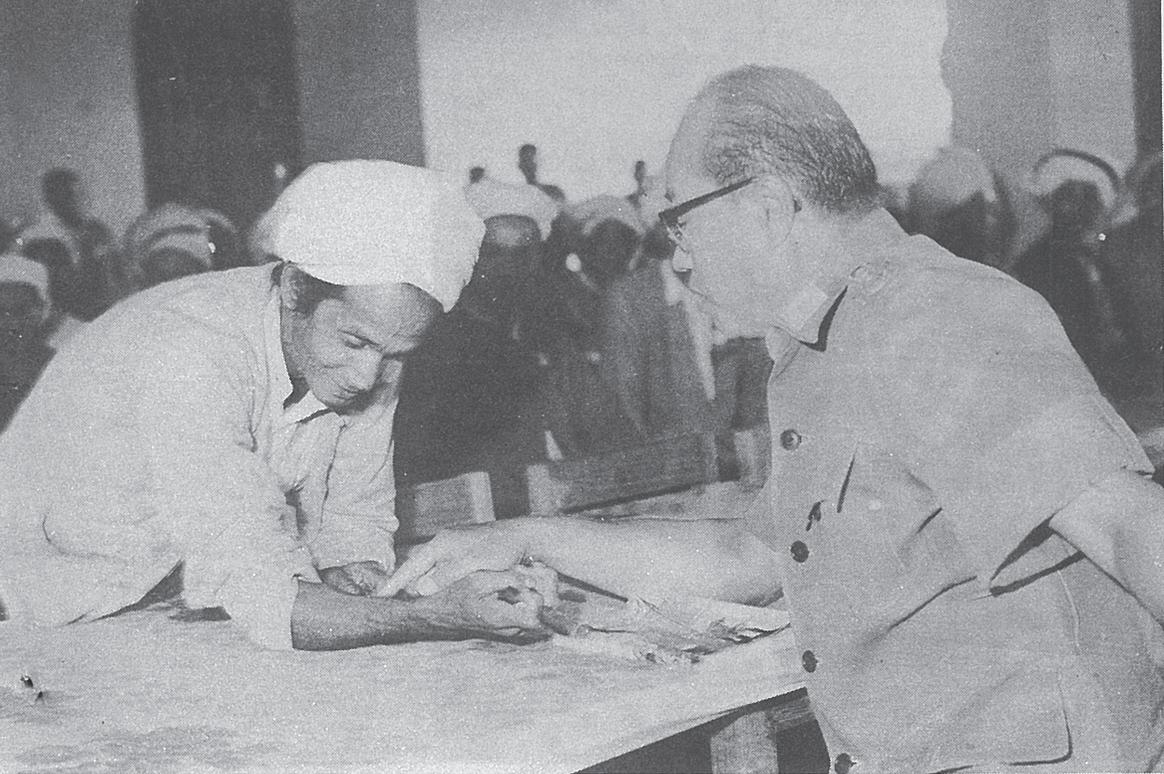
# 1960s Internal



Ne Win addressing the Peasants Seminar at Ohndaw, December 1962.



Ne Win leads a peasant procession at Hkapaung Peasants Seminar.



Ne Win examining the tattoos of veterans of the 1930s Hsaya San's Galon Tat.



Ne Win meeting the thirty-three member Internal Unity Advisory Board.



Ne Win examining gem stones with Colonel Ko Ko Gyi, 1960s.

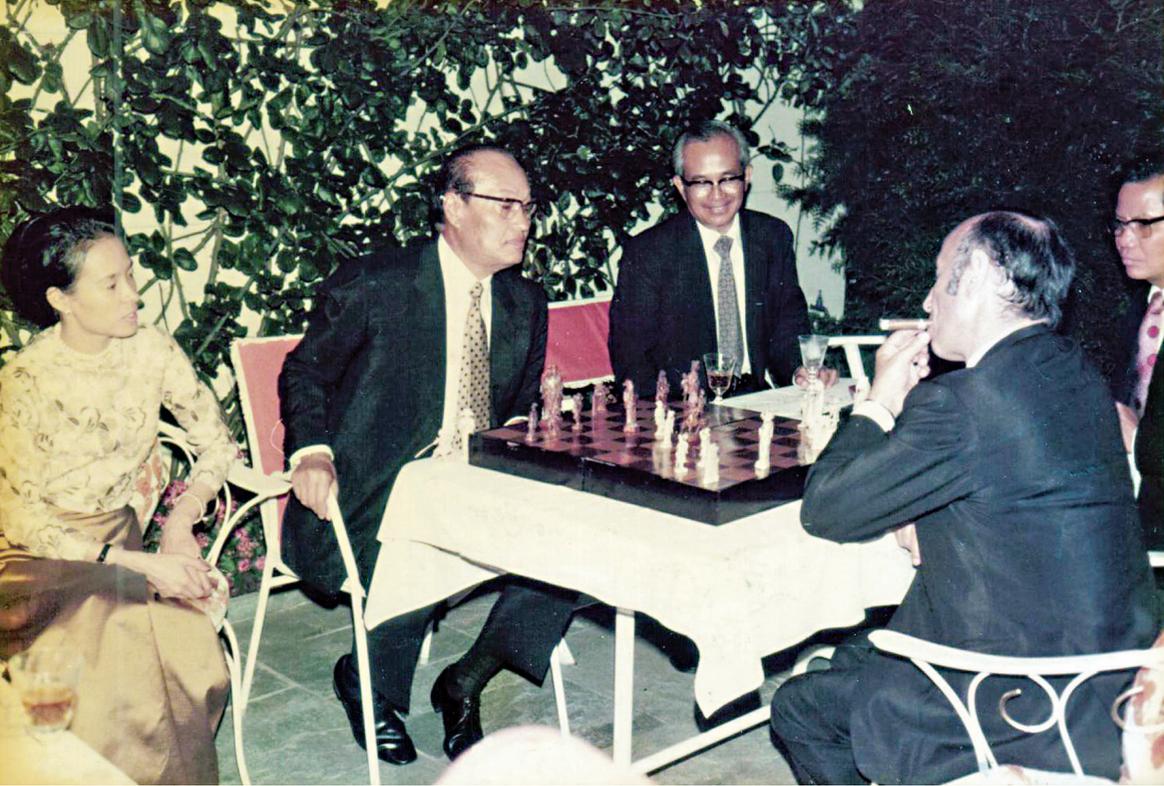
**mid-1970s**



Ne Win in official photo at the time of the First BSPP Congress, 1971.



Ne Win doing a Kachin dance.

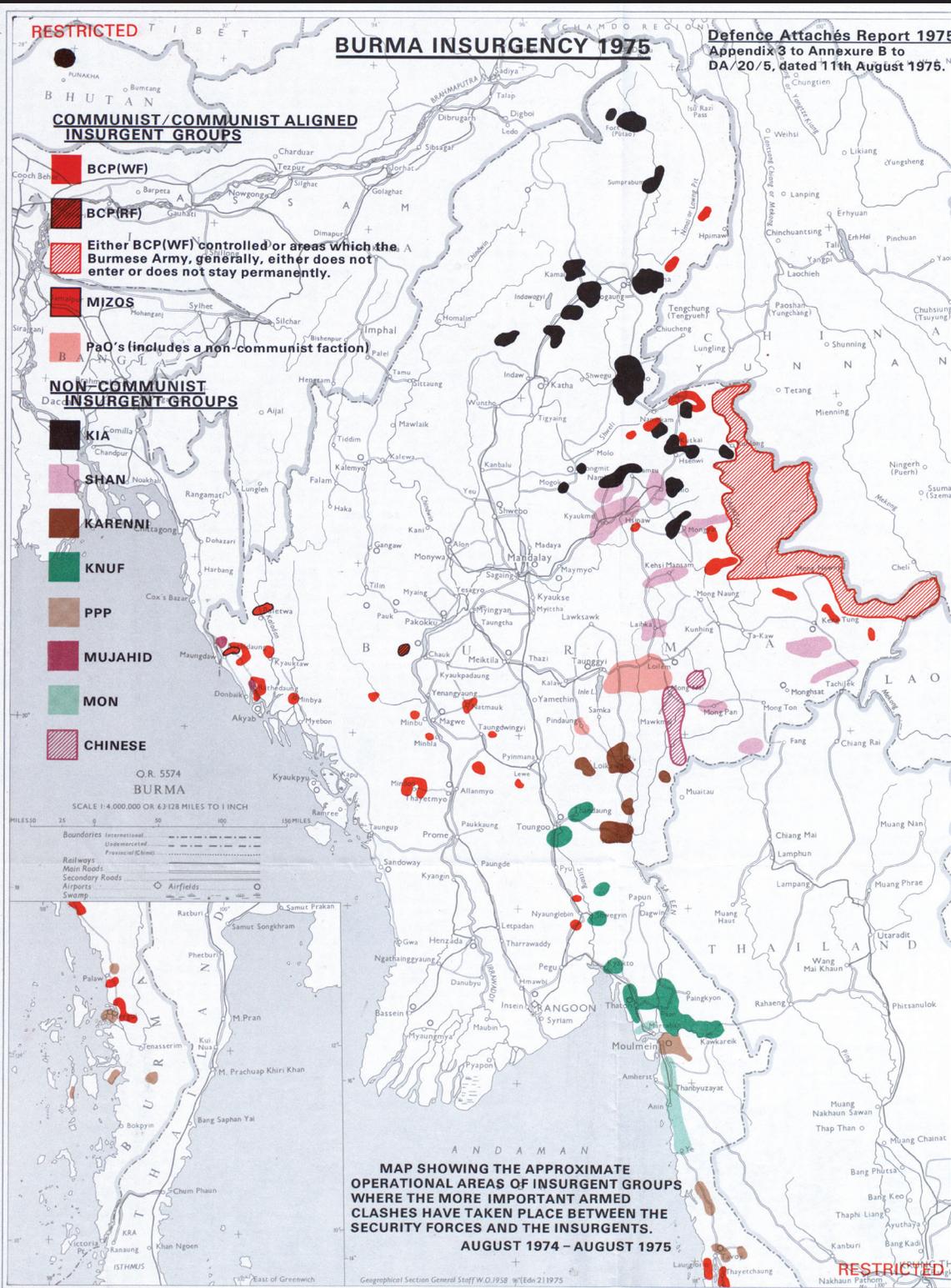


Ne Win playing chess in Switzerland, with Daw Ni Ni Myint at his side, circa 1973.



Picture of Ne Win with Yadana Nat Mae on their wedding day as published in the Yangon newspapers, 24 December 1974.

Map showing major areas of insurgent activities in 1975 (UK National Archives FCO15/2045).





# 1980s



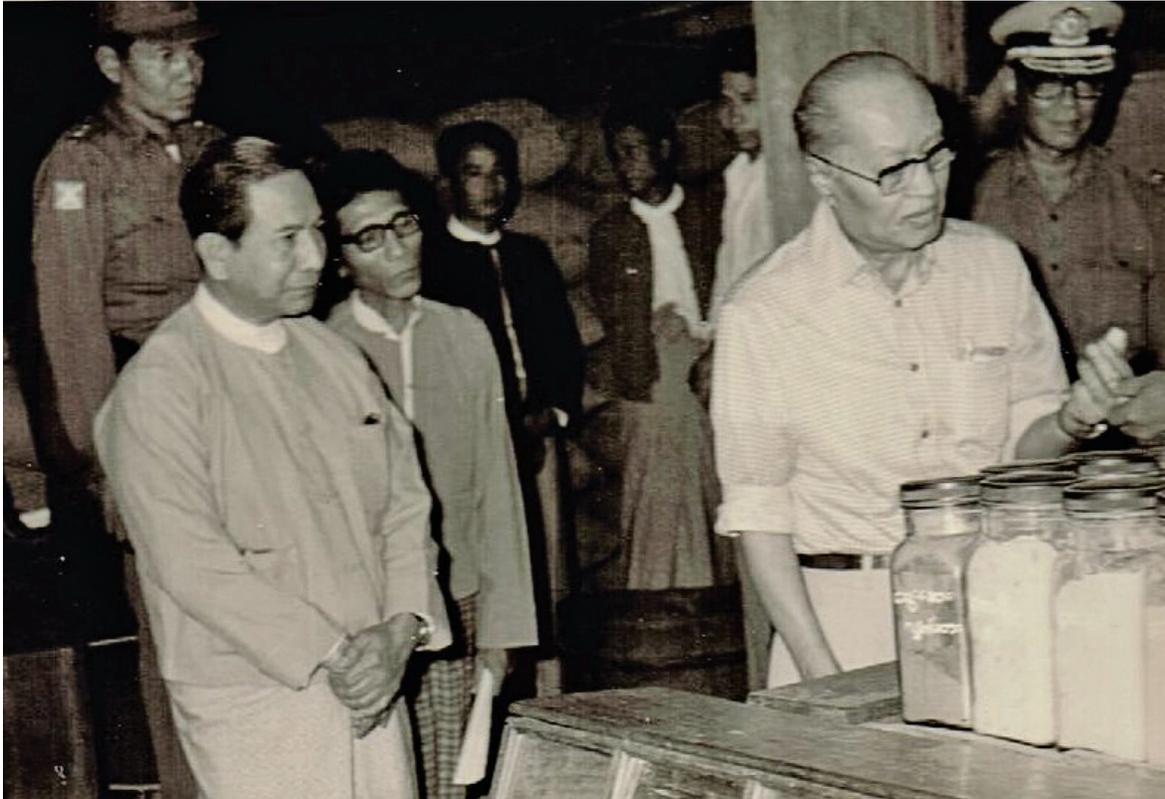
Ne Win presenting the Aung San Tagun award to Lord Bottomley.



Ne Win with the King and Queen of Thailand and the Crown Prince.



Ne Win being escorted by Colonel Khin Nyunt to his waiting plane.



Ne Win and President San Yu on an inspection tour.



Ne Win and senior BSPP leaders at a Party Congress, with Dr Maung Maung on the extreme left, circa 1981.



Ne Win meeting wounded soldiers at the Lashio Military Hospital, 25 December 1986.



Ne Win being briefed at the Metallurgical Research and Development Centre, 25 January 1988.



Ne Win bidding farewell to Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir and his wife at the state guest house, Yangon, 27 February 1988.

# 1990s



Ne Win and Singapore Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew, circa 1994.



Ne Win and his daughter Daw Khin Sanda Win and her husband and sons standing behind at a party, December 2001.