



**OFFICE OF THE SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
KAREN NATIONAL UNION
KAWTHOOLEI**

KNU Statement on recent media accusations regarding foreign individuals

It has been brought to the attention of the Karen National Union that a number of U.S. based individuals have made claims to be militarily supporting and training the Karen National Liberation Army and as such have been openly discussing their support with a number of media outlets.

The Karen National Union would like to clarify that it does not in any way endorse, encourage, or seek the support of these individuals or their claims of representation. In making such erroneous claims they have tarnished the reputation both of the Karen National Union and The Karen National Liberation Army and we feel it our responsibility to request that they desist from such actions in the future.

While the Karen National Union welcomes all those who seek to support our struggle in striving towards founding a genuine federal union comprised of all the states of the nationalities in Burma. We feel some individuals have incorrectly portrayed our actions as an attempt to form a separate republic and in doing so have also suggested that the Karen National Union and the Karen National Liberation Army are pursuing separate goals.

We would like to confirm that the Karen National Union and the Karen National Liberation Army are united and steadfast in our endeavours. We have never sought nor needed the support of foreign individuals or countries and we repudiate the suggestions by some that we have. The struggle of the Karen is a just one and we are more than capable to continuing it without such aid.

Central Executive Committee

Karen National Union

Date: June 28, 2008.