TRIAL OF DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI

By the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma

Court: Special Court inside Insein Prison
Judges: U Thaung Nyunt (Northern District - Rangoon)
U Nyi Nyi Soe (Western District - Rangoon)

Plaintiff: Special Branch Police Lt Col Zaw Min Aung, two others

Defendants:
1. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi
2. Daw Khin Khin Win
3. Daw Win Ma Ma
4. John William Yettaw

Charges: *Under Article 22* (State Protection Law or Law to Safeguard the State against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts): "Any person against whom action is taken, who opposes, resists or disobeys any order passed under this Law shall be liable to imprisonment…"
-- Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

Under Article 109 (The Penal Code): "Whoever abets any offense shall, if the act abetted is committed in consequence of the abetment, and no express provision is made by this Code of the punishment of such abetment, be punished with the punishment provided for the offense. *Explanation*: An act or offense is said to be committed in consequence of abetment, when it is committed in consequence of the instigation, or in pursuance of the conspiracy, or with the aid which constitutes the abetment."
-- Defendants 2, 3 & 4

Under Article 13 (1) (Immigration Act -- Emergency Provisions) and *under Article 28* (Yangon City Development Committee Law) "for breaching the restriction on swimming in Inya Lake"
-- Defendant 4

Defense Team: U Kyi Win (For Daw Aung San Suu Kyi)
Daw Khin Htay Kywe (For two companions of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi)
U Hla Myo Myint, and U Nyan Win (Assist both the lawyers above)

High Grade Pleader U Khin Maung Oo (For John William Yettaw)

The Show is Over

More prosecution witnesses were brought before the court as the trial of Nobel Peace Laureate and Burma's democracy leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi continued on 21-22 May.

The Burmese generals decided that the show is over and diplomats and journalists who were given about an hour to witness the court proceedings on 20 May were no longer permitted to enter courtroom.

The move did not discourage NLD members and supporters of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi who were still sitting in front of Insein Prison.

Fewer security personnel were seen around the Insein Prison but a lot more were seen near the NLD headquarters where lawyers for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi were hold unofficial dialing briefings about the trial when they return from the trial.

21 May

As the curtains came down and outsiders were banned from the court on 21 May, four witnesses -- one officer from the Police Department, U Kyaw Thu, manager of Beauty Land Hotel where John Yettaw stayed, and U Zaw Tin and U Khin Nyunt, two chairmen of the ward Peace and Development Councils who acted as search witnesses -- testified.

Police Captain Tin Zaw Tun testified about John Yettaw's belongings he had collected from Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's residence which, among others, included "two black chadors usually worn by Muslim women, three pairs of sun glasses" and the police captain said he asked Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's live-in companions -- Daw Khin Khin Win and Daw Win Ma Ma -- "to wear the chadors" and took their photos.

The court was also showed a video footage taken by John Yettaw inside Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's residence in which he described that he "believed God was with him and protecting him; that he admired Daw Aung San Suu Kyi; that he did not blame her for not allowing him to take her photos; that she would have to face lots of hardships in future; that he prayed that he might be able to help her".

The defense lawyers apparently focused on the lack of security at Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's residence when U Hla Myo Myint, acting for the two companions, asked the police captain if Bahan Township Police Station was responsible for the security of the

residence. The captain said the police station provided security but "separate units" were responsible for the security.

22 May -- Formal Charges Filed

The Special Court in Insein Prison has formally charged the four defendants -- Burma's democracy leader and Nobel Peace Laureate Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win, Ma Win Ma Ma, and American citizen John William Yettaw.

After five days of trial, the judge formally charged Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win, Ma Win Ma Ma, and Mr. John William Yettaw after the trial began around 1230 today.

Earlier, the court heard testimonies against John Yettaw in connection with charges that accused him of violating the Immigration Act and the Rangoon City Development Committee Law.

U Myat Thin, officer of the Kyauktaga Township Immigration Department, and Police Officer U Win Naing Tun of the Special Branch of Police give testimonies in the morning.

Around 1600, the presiding judge announced the decision to file formal charges.

Lawyer U Kyi Win said the judge asked whether Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was guilty and she pleaded not guilty. The others -- Daw Khin Khin Win, Ma Win Ma Ma and John Yettaw also pleaded not guilty.

U Kyi Win said he will be recalling eight witnesses from among the 14 witnesses that had testified over five days. He did not know who John Yettaw's lawyer was recalling.

The trial continues on Monday -- 25 May.

Meanwhile, security remains tight around Insein Prison and roads were blocked. Even though people outside did not know what was going on inside the courtroom, hundreds of them carrying umbrellas waited outside the prison, braving the heavy rains today.

Police Patrol Under Arrest?

Meanwhile, an inside source who did not want to be identified said eight members of the Police Zone 5 Patrol, who were in charge of security when John Yettaw was apprehended were being detained.

John Yettaw was discovered by Police Zone 7 Patrol while Zone 5 Patrol members were reportedly drunk after having a drinking binge.

"No one knows where they are being detained, not even the other police," said the source.

News sources: freelancers inside the country, www.myanmar.com, www.dvb.no , www.mizzima.com , www.irrawaddy.org , and various Burmese language blogs