National League for Democracy  
No: (97/B), West Shwegondine  
Bahan Township, Rangoon

Statement 43 (8/98)

1. While the General Secretary Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her party were travelling peacefully by car to Bassein on 12-8-98, the road was blocked at Anyasu village, Htantabin township, and they were illegally prevented from proceeding.

2. It became known that the General Secretary and her party and their car was no longer at the place where they had been blockaded.

3. In order to verify the news, U Thein Oo, U Soe Win and U Mahn Nyunt Thein followed up in a car belonging to the General Secretary but they have been illegally arrested and held and it is now fifteen days.

4. Also, Daw Naw Ohn Hla, Daw Cho Cho Myint, Ko Khin Kyaw and Ko Hla Win, all members of the NLD who went peacefully to visit their leader because they were concerned about her well being have been illegally arrested and it is now sixteen days that they have been held.

5. The above individuals had no intention of causing any disturbance, neither were they participating in a political rally. They have not violated any law and did not disturb the peace in any way. it is obvious that they wanted to verify if their leader was still at the place where she had been blockaded. there is no justification whatsoever for holding them for this period of time. this action on the part of the authorities display their abuse of power motivated by ill will.

6. these people have been held for far too long and the persons arresting and holding them and those superior authorities who are condoning such actions will be held wholly responsibly for their safety.

7. Since the General Secretary and her party have come back on 24-8-98, we ask that all of the above person be released immediately and unconditionally and the car be returned.

Central Executive Committee  
National League for Democracy  
Rangoon  
August 28, 1998