National League for Democracy  
No: (97/b) West Shwegondine Road  
Bahan, Rangoon

STATEMENT 86 (10/98)

Contents of the letter written to the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council by the Chairman of the National League for Democracy is reproduced for information.

(F) " Subject- In the matter of the holding of a public meeting

1. The authorities that have assumed state power claimed that they would restore and build a new and advanced democratic, stable and united nation for which they are accountable.

2. It is now more than eight years since the holding of the multi-party general elections and the authorities have not only failed to convene parliament, but have arrested and placed in custody most of the NLD parliamentarians-elect, NLD organising committee members from the States, Divisions, Townships, Villages and Wards, and ordinary NLD members.

3. Recently, the authorities have been compelling welfare organisations, trading organisations, professional organisations, academic organisations, students and other organisations involving government servants to hold so-called " Meetings to display the peoples' wishes". They have been coerced to attend these meetings where speeches and resolutions have had to be made and taken as instructed by the authorities. Using and manipulating these organisations for political ends is improper and is a deliberate ploy by the authorities to confuse the political issues.

4. The National League for Democracy is a legally registered political party and has the confidence of the people by having gained 82 percent of the seats in the parliamentary general elections. Therefore, we claim the right to hold a public meeting to inform and reveal to the people about what is happening in the country today." (END)

The Central Executive Committee  
National League for Democracy

Rangoon  
14 October 1998