NLD Statement 173/1999:

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

NLD Statement No: 173 (12/99) Translation

Contents of letter dated 14 December 1999 from the Chairman of the National League for Democracy to the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council is herewith published and distributed for information.

Start -
" Subject - In the matter of the appeal from the wife of U Thi Ha (a) U Tint Swe, a prisoner in the Myaungmya jail.

1. Ma Aye Aye Myint, wife of U Thi Ha (a) U Tint Swe forwarded her letter of appeal sent to the Minister for Home Affairs with the request that we take up the matter.

2. U Thi Ha (a) U Tint Swe who was sentenced by the relevant court has had to suffer a term of 10 years imprisonment (1.11.89 to 31 10.99). He was denied the period of remission that all prisoners are entitled to.

3. Ma Aye Aye Myint received notice from the prison authorities that at the next visitation date he would be set free. She joyously prepared food, clothing and medicines and went to meet him. On arrival at the jail she was notified that in accordance with orders from the Home Ministry given under Section 10 (d) of the Law to Prevent Disturbance to the State, he was to be kept in custody for another 60 days. Can a person who has not had the chance to step out into the outside world contravene the provisions of this Section 10 (d)? This is most unjust and publicly testifies to the flagrant abuse of power by the authorities.

4. The application of this law unjustly victimizes the prisoner and his whole family. The latest information which we have received is that the prisoner has deteriorated in health and is suffering severe depression, mental derangement and hallucinations even to the extent of not remembering his own children.

5. His wife and children have suffered socially and physically. The wife is having uterus and kidney problems proof of that can be read in the medical certificate which is herewith attached. (Not attached to this statement).

6. This continued detention alleged to be under the orders of the Minister reflects the lack of compassion for a fellow human being and is extremely unjust. We strongly denounce the continued imprisonment of U Thi Ha (a) U Tint Swe and demand that as soon as possible orders be issued to immediately and unconditionally release him. Should his mental and physical health further deteriorate the authorities that continue to hold him illegally and unjustly will be held accountable and solely responsible." END

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy
Rangoon 15 December 1999