

NLD Statement 65/2000:

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

Statement 65 (2/00) (translation)

Letter dated 27 April from NLD Chairman to SPDC Chairman is published for information.

Start "Subject - Failure to apprehend molesters"

1. As the National League for Democracy is a legally constituted political party since 27 September 1988, its political activities are within the law. Its Youth Wing was established ever since the party was founded.
2. Currently, the Deputy Chairman, General Secretary and the Chairman of the Rangoon Division Organising Committee are supervising the activities of the branches that have been formed in Dagon Myothit township, Kyimyindine township and Mingaladon township.
3. On 12 April, 2000 at midnight Military intelligence personnel illegally and by force captured members of the Youth Wing in the above mentioned townships.
4. As is the Burmese custom for friends to visit the families of those unfortunate victims who had been illegally captured, a party headed by the NLD Deputy Chairman, the General Secretary and the Chairman of the Rangoon Division Organising Committee went to Dagon Myothit and Mingaladon on the 17th.
5. They reached the house of U Kyi Lwin (NLD member residing at 530 (b) Zeyamyang Road) at about 11:20 a.m. While conversing with his wife and children and consoling them, two men, half naked and drunk, with red broken bricks in their hands appeared in front of the house. They were boisterous and abusive and violently hurled their bricks to the ground close to the spot where the General Secretary's car was parked despite being asked not to cause a disturbance by the members of the Youth Wing and their chairman. There were military intelligence and police personnel at the scene but they did nothing to stop the commotion. Security forces took no action for the safety of the community. Two members of the Youth Wing requested the nearby military intelligence personnel to intervene but they didn't lift a finger. At that time the deputy chairman, the general secretary and the Rangoon Division Organising Committee Chairman were entering their cars to leave. Only when the General Secretary was seated in her car one police superintendent approached the two half-naked molesters and took them away.
6. The two half-naked molesters are Ko Soe Win and Ko Pe Than of Number 1186, 54 Expanded Ward, Dagon Myothit and they work in the house of U Win Swe, Chairman of 54 Ward Ruling Authority, Dagon Myothit. They also are members of the Fire Brigade (Reserve) force.
7. These two molesters were violently hurling bricks that could have caused grave bodily harm to property and person. Security forces that were standing near-by had a duty to apprehend them for the security of the community but they did nothing to prevent any untoward event thus aiding and abetting the commission of a grave offense.
8. The events are totally unacceptable and are condemned. We ask that special instructions be issued to prevent the same sort of events and that proper action be taken against the offenders.

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy

Rangoon
4 May 2000