

NLD Statement 81/2000:

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

Statement 81(6/00) (translation)

1. We have heard that the NLD Wuntho township branch organizing committee have resisted the intimidation and coercive tactics applied to them by the Sagaing Division, Wuntho township authorities and have refused to sign papers to that effect.
2. Therefore, under instructions from above, to reduce the membership to less than five as a special operation they are making trumped up charges and arresting the members of the NLD organizing committee in the district.
3. Wuntho NLD organising committee deputy chairman U Nyein Aung and Treasurer U Kyaw Thoung, both physicians practicing German Homopathic Medicine were arrested by the Special Drug squad from Katha and action is being taken against them.
4. At 12 noon on the 10th May, 2000, U Nyein Aung was made to stop on the road while returning from his medical duties on his motor cycle and was subjected to a search. He was immediately taken to the lock up allegedly for possessing the abortifacient drug "atromin". We have been informed that charges have been framed against him. U Nyein Aung has been practicing as a physician for over 35 years.
5. Similarly on the 12th May at exactly 1:00 p.m. the authorities went and conducted a search at the residence of Treasurer U Kyaw Thoung at Namkhan (Kyauk-pa-sat shwedwin camp). Action has been taken against him on the allegation that "atromin" was found on the premises.
6. The community relies on these individuals who have been serving them as physicians for more than thirty years. However because of their loyalty and commitment to the NLD they have been made scapegoats and victimized.
It is shameful and base of the authorities who seem to have fallen so low. We condemn them for this.

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy

Rangoon
2 June 2000