

NLD Statement 102/2000:

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

Statement 102 (7/00) (translation)

1. On Saturday, 24 June 2000 at 9:30 a.m., U Thoung Sein (a) U Kyauk Khe, U Soe, U Pa Lay and U Pu, (NLD organising committee members of Taungdwingyi in Magwe division traveled to Pa-ya-kwin village (a distance of about 4 miles from Chaung-ne village). NLD member U Waing San who lived in that village had been arrested under Section 5 (10) and their mission was to obtain his household census list and Daw Khin Lay Kyi's (his wife) registration papers to forward to the International Red Cross.

2. Our information is that at 12 noon the same day, USDA chairman Aung Win and local authority chairman Tha Sein telephoned the police at Taungdwingyi and Set-thwa and reported that the Taungdwingyi NLD was organising the villagers. Police from both the stations lay in wait and arrested the NLD members on their return home and detained them at the Taungdwingyi Police station. Their families were not permitted to see them.

3. They were charged under Section 505 (b) on 26 June, 2000 for being in possession of NLD documents. NLD is a legally constituted political party and they are entitled to possess these documents. The complainants were Police Superintendent Thet Naing, and U Myo Myint, Township legal officer. The sentence was 2 years imprisonment with hard labour.

4. The military anashins are unable to tolerate anything written by a legally constituted political party so their lackeys the USDA willy nilly give instructions to the police and legal officers who obey them and do as they are told. This is a shocking state of affairs where · the rule of law is completely obliterated· democracy is on the wane· human rights violations are multiplying· abuse of authority is intensifying· browbeating is rampant· malevolence and hatred are becoming widespread.

It is so very obvious that the military anashins are immature and going in the wrong direction. The USDA is empowered to give whatever instructions to all civil servants, departments and organisations. Their orders are implicitly followed and carried out. This is very wrong and we seriously press for a change before it is too late. We denounce all these illegal activities.

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy

Rangoon
6 July 2000