NLD Statement 117/2000:

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

Statement 117 (7/00) (translation)

1. We have received information about the devious methods employed by the USDA members to obtain signatures for the staging of illegal shouting demonstrations against the NLD in the township of Kayan (Rangoon division).

2. In order to get signatures and attendance at these illegal demonstrations, the kind of tactics and lies employed are:-
   · Threats of prosecution for opposing the authority of the state.
   · Personal attendance at the township Military Intelligence Office.
   · Kyats five hundred penalty.
   · Promises of rice and oil for those who participate.

3. Our information is that these USDA members are operators of illegal lottery businesses and were threatened with action under the Gambling Act should they not carry out the wishes of the authorities in these illegal demonstrations.

4. The associates of the military anashins in the wards of Dala township (Rangoon division) listed the names of all over 18s and submitted the list to the higher ups. On the 20th July, 2000 under the heading "Dissolve the NLD who entertain bad doctrines", these lists were sent back to the respective wards. The servants of the military anashins went from house to house, door to door and meticulously forced the individuals to put their signatures against their names.

5. On the 22nd July, 2000 the illegal shouting demonstration was staged in Bo-te-za indoor stadium led by the ward and township military anashins and attended by the civil organisations such as the USDA (a welfare association), Fire Brigade members, Red Cross members, Maternity and Child Welfare association, Women Association, civil servants, members of the Police force and the Military Intelligence.

6. We strongly object to these illegal performances to create dissension, division, hatred and unrest amongst nationals and fellow human beings.

Central Executive Committee  
National League for Democracy  
Rangoon  
28 July 2000