

NLD Statement 122/2000:

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

Statement 122 (8/00) (translation)

1. Information received is that on 1 July 2000, every house in North Zaing-ga-naing ward (Pegu township, Pegu division) was visited by USDA organizer U Htay Win (owner of Shwe-aing San Travellers' Lodge) and members of the ward military authority. By intimidation and coercion and unlawful display of authority and power they forced the householders to sign papers for the purpose of denouncing the NLD and for its dissolution.

2. Similarly on the 2 July at the shopping area in the centre of the town USDA organizer U Soe Myint (hard of hearing Soe Myint) and his group consisting of other USDA members and members of the military authorities) went around illegally forcing people to sign papers indicating their loss of confidence in the NLD. When a lady at one store expressed her confidence in the NLD and refused to sign she was threatened with withdrawal of the shop license and great pressure was applied to get her signature.

3. Similarly on the 2 July, at Myothit (d) ward, for no given reason the authorities went around preparing the list of all over 18s and applied the same pressure and threats to get their signatures. The next day (3 July) the same process was conducted by ward military dictator authority chairman U Myint Lwin Soe and his group at Myothit ward (19). Again the next day (4 July) in Myothit Ward 1/6 every house was entered by the military dictator authority representatives and USDA members for the same purpose using the same tactics.

4. We have been informed that on 5 June 2000 at Chauk township (Magwe division) an illegal shouting demonstration was staged against NLD Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Myint Thein. Also for the closing down of the NLD which was referred to as a party with bad doctrines.

5. An organizing committee comprising township USDA members, township military dictator authorities, and township election commission representatives was formed for the specific purpose of accomplishing this unlawful and deliberate breaches of the law and to intimidate the people to force them in this sham performance.

6. The door knocking exercise to get every 18 year old and above to append their signatures was thus accomplished. Those who refused were taken to the offices of the administrators and seriously threatened. Civil servants were given notice of dismissal. Pressure was applied through threats and intimidation.

7. This widespread abuse of authority for the accomplishment of illegal activities, these wrongful acts, these deceitful and misleading methods constitute breaches of the law. We strongly disapprove and condemn the participants.

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy

Rangoon
4 August, 2000