

NLD Statement 139/2000:

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

Statement 139 (8/00) (translation)

1. Letter No. 058/see(chan)/00 dated 28 August 2000 from NLD chairman to SPDC chairman is published for everyone's information.

Start " Subject - An emphatic declaration disapproving the illegal, unjust blockade forced on NLD Deputy Chairman U Tin Oo, General Secretary Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Rangoon Division Organizing Committee Chairman U Soe Myint, and members of the youth wing.

Reference --- Letter No. 057/see(chan)/2000 dated 25 August 2000

1. It is five days (including today) that the NLD leaders of the highest rung have been illegally and forcibly stopped, prevented and confined near the town of Dala in Rangoon division.

2. These individuals are the highest ranking and most responsible persons of the legally constituted NLD. They were on their way to accomplish a legal task which is permitted by law.

3. The road on which they were travelling is a public highway for the use of the entire public. In illegally prohibiting and blockading their travel, the military dictators have exercised extreme a-na (power) with disregard for the "rule of law". This is an indictable criminal offence and must be brought before a court of law.

4. The NLD's high personalities have been marooned in a deserted area unsuitable for human dwelling which could endanger their health soon. If that happens, those who are blocking them, those who are carrying out the orders and those who are giving such orders associated with the blockade will be held entirely liable. This is a reminder and a warning.

5. According to information received the military anashins are making out that this measure is being taken for security reasons despite the fact that the capital city of Rangoon is in the Rangoon division and the blockade is within the Rangoon municipal limits. If there is no security in this area now, the military authorities must be lying when they proclaim that security in the country is far above what it ever has been.

6. The National League for Democracy is a national political party working genuinely for the establishment of democracy and human rights in its country. Every since its establishment there has never been any disruption of peace and security at any time or at any place because of its activities. The military anashins are fully aware of this. The present illegal and unjust operations adversely affects the cause of democracy and human rights and exposes the hatred they harbor against the top leadership and the deliberate intention to prevent them using the highway that is accessible to every person. Therefore

it is hereby announced that the medicines and medical service that the military anashins would want to provide will be rejected by the top leaders especially Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

7.(a) For the above reasons, the only solution is to allow the above top leaders to proceed on their journey as planned peacefully without let or hindrance. The top leaders will proceed to their destination as originally planned.

(b) After they have reached their destination and completed the task as planned they will peacefully return. The only thing for the military dictators to do is to remove the impediments they have placed at the earliest possible moment.

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy

Rangoon
28 August 2000