After her release from house arrest on May 6, 2002, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi journeyed to 95 townships during the time from June 11, 2002, to April 13, 2003, and reopened NLD offices.

Beginning from May 6, 2003, she traveled to Mandalay Division, Sagaing Division, Kachin State and Shan State, and presided over the installation of signboards and opening of NLD offices. On May 29, she began the Mandalay-Monywa trip. Trips to Upper Burma were made, only after she had obtained prior permission and agreement from the SPDC and township election commissions.

On May 29, at 9:00 a.m., a party of more than 100 persons in a convoy of 7 vehicles of NLD members, vehicles of supporters from Mandalay and more than 20 motorcycles set out for Sagaing, from due west of the 38th Street and south of the 84th Street of Mandalay. At the front, a scout car for security drove at a distance ahead of the convoy, and the car of Daw Suu, cars of NLD members and those of the others, followed. The convoy reached the Sagaing Bridge at about 10:00 a.m. While it was passing the bridge and at the entrance to Sagaing Town, 800 members of the USDA, on the left and right sides of the road, were holding placards with slogans "We don't want people who don't support USDA." They were also chanting the slogans exactly as they were written on the placards. After the convoy had passed these protesters, about 2,000 people from Sagaing who greeted the NLD leaders with, "Long live Daw Aung San Suu Kyi" and "Long live Ba Ba U Tin Oo."

The entourage continued their journey after leaving Sagaing and arrived at Myinmu at about 12:00 noon. In the whole length of the journey, the traffic police and military intelligence unit members followed from behind the convoy and took pictures with video and still cameras. In Myinmu, signboard for Myinmu Township NLD office was installed and the Upper Burma Youth officer as well as MP-elect of Leway Township constituency, Ko Tin Tun
Oo, presided over formation of M yinmu Township NLD Youths. Then, the convoy left M yinmu for M onyaw a after 3:00 p.m. Before reaching Chaung U, a group assembled for protest against D aw Suu near Yeposar Village was seen by the security scout car. It tried to turn back so as to inform the convoy about the matter. However, as the crowd prevented it from turning back, the scout car had to go on to M onyaw a. When the scout car, on reaching Chaung U, related about the incident at Yeposar to a crowd of students and people from M onyaw a, who had come to welcome D aw Suu, the crowd riding on about 3,000 motorcycles rushed to Yeposar. As there were about 6,000 supporters, the protesters were not able to do any mischief and D aw Suu and the party was able to reach M onyaw a safely at 6 p.m.

The town's people of M onyaw a and the local population warmly welcomed D aw A ung S an S uu K y i and the N LD members. Though the government authorities had cut off power to the whole town, there was a rousing candle-lit welcome by the people, with shouts of "L ong live D aw Suu; L ong live B a B a U T i n O o!" D aw A ung S an S uu K y i addressed the welcoming crowd in M onyaw a Town for about 40 minutes. After that, she retired for the night at the house of a former military officer and owner of Sein Hmyar Store of M onyaw a, U T i n S oe.

On the morning of M ay 30, D aw A ung S an S uu K y i presided over the installation of signboard and reopening of M onyaw a Township NLD office, and then the formation of M onyaw a Township NLD Youths. Though D aw A ung S an S uu K y i and her party members later went to Zawtika monastery of M onyaw a to pay respect to the abbot, they did not have a chance to do so, as the abbot had been invited away by the Army N orthwest Command headquarters. After that, D aw Suu and the party went to Okkan Tawya monastery briefly. At about 10: a.m., departure was made for B utalin Town through the C ircular Road of M onyaw a. When D aw A ung S an S uu K y i and party arrived near Zeedaw Village, military authorities from the N orthwest Command headquarters stopped the convoy including cars of the people of M onyaw a, who came along to send off D aw Suu and party. When D aw Suu and party arrived at B utalin, the ceremonies of installing the signboard and opening of B utalin Township NLD office, and formation of B utalin Township NLD Youths were performed.

After that, the supporters from M onyaw a who came along with the party returned to M onyaw a. When they arrived at Zeedaw, which was near the A rmy N orthwest Command headquar-
ters, the police waiting in readiness beat them up and put them under arrest.

At about 4:30 p.m., the entourage left Butalin for Depehyin Town. When it arrived at Saingpyin Village, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi went to the house of U Win Myint Aung, who was an MP-elect and who had been in prison, and gave a word of encouragement to the family members of U Win Myint Aung and NLD members of the village. On the way to Depehyin, as the scout car for our convoy did not return, motorcycle riders were sent to find out about the situation. However, they also did not return.

Then, the entourage continued the journey, and reached Kyi Village at about 7:30 - 8:00 p.m., where the massacre took place. From there, Depayin was only about 2 miles away. At Kyi Village, the villagers and local population came out to welcome Daw Suu and the NLD members. After passing Kyi Village for about 100 yards, the car with registration number Ar/5415 in which Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was riding, was at the forefront of the convoy, and behind that was the car in which U Tun Win (from Zaygyo) and U Khin Maung Thaung were riding. The third car (Hilux model, green color) was that of members of Mandalay Township Youths, who had the duty of providing close security. Behind that was the car of Sagaing Township MP-elect, Dr. Hla Soe Nyunt (Sunny, white color). Behind Dr. Hla Soe Nyunt’s car was the car of members of Rangoon Division, NLD Central Youths security detail (Hilux model, white color) and behind the car of the Central Youths was the car of NLD Vice-Chairman U Tin Oo (Town Ace model, micro-bus) and behind U Tin Oo’s car were cars of the NLD members, all in a line.

After passing Kyee village for about a hundred yards, by blocking the way in the front, two monks stopped Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s car. When Central Youths security officer Ko Tun Zaw Zaw got off the car and asked about the reason, the 18 two monks said, “We have been waiting for a long time. Ask Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to give a speech.” In reply, Ko Tun Zaw Zaw explained that it was not possible because of lack of time. At that moment, attackers on 2 Dyna trucks and 2 Torlagi cars, altogether 4 vehicles, which had been tailing the convoy, repeatedly shouted “Relying on external forces, axe handles; people with negative views, we don’t want!” So shouting, they alighted from their vehicles. In response to that, Kyi villagers, who had come out to welcome Daw Suu and the NLD members, shouted, “We the people, in turn, don’t want you!” At that, the U SDA members, their mercenaries, and the faked monks, who had got off from the Dyna and Torlagi asked, “What are you saying?” So asking, they started to attack the Kyi villagers with pointed iron
rods, iron bars, bamboo sticks and wooden bats, which they had brought in advance with them. As one of the attackers’ Dyna trucks attempted to run over the people seen in the light of the cars, the villagers had to run in disorder. Then they gradually approached the convoy of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

At the mean time, about three thousand thugs holding the similar lethal weapons, who were laying in wait to attack beside the road appeared immediately. They joined the previous perpetrators and attacked the people in the cars of the convoy, including that of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, NLD supporters who were taking motorbikes, and the people who came along to send off the NLD, systematically. The killing field could be seen in the light of some Dyna trucks numbered at least four that had been tailing the convoy.

The faked monks with red armband and people in civilian clothes with white arm band while beating the women, they shouted, “Race destroying women; You want to be wives of Kala 4; Before you make yourselves wives of Kala, become our wives.” Shouting such unspeakable abuses, they beat on violently without ceasing. From the women victims who had fallen to the ground, they pulled their NLD uniform jackets and sarongs, and they wrapped the hair around their hands and bumped the faces against the tar road. They rudely and savagely attacked until causing fatal injuries. They looted ornaments and cash from the victims.

The attackers concentrated their savage assault on the right side of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s car, where members of the Youths responsible for security stood, with linked hands, in tiers. Many members of the youth security detail were seriously injured. As they hit violently and repeatedly on the head, NLD photographer Tin Maung Oo and Ko Thein Toe was killed on the spot. To terrorize the victims, the attackers violently struck the cars with iron bars and broke car windows by stabbing with pointed iron rods. In the vehicle, with registration number Ar/5415, were Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Ko Tun Zaw Zaw, the NLD Central Youths security officer, and car driver Kyaw Soe Lin, member of Mandalay Division NLD. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s car had to rush out while members of youth security detail, giving close protection to Daw Suu’s car, came under intense and violent attack. At the same time, the attackers launched a violent assault on the car of NLD Vice-Chairman U Tin Oo and then they seized U Tin Oo at the place of attack and took him away.

The victims who escaped from the first killing field near Kyi Village and fled towards Depayin were attacked again by more than 1,000 attackers, who were waiting ready on the left and right sides of the road, at a place near the compound of local Irrigation Department. It was a second killing field. It could also be seen with the spotlights already installed in the big...
rain trees beside the road and in the light of many Dyna Trucks that had been positioned by the authorities. Daw Aung San Suu K’yi and Dr. Hla Soe Nyunt narrowly escaped attack at the second killing field, because their cars rushed through the waiting crowd at high speed.

The reliable sources indicate that the authorities gathered and trained these terrorist attackers numbered about 5,000⁵, comprising the USDA members and other criminals from the prisons. They attacked Daw Aung San Suu K’yi and party, as well as the local population, who came out to welcome her and the accompanying NLD members, using violence and terror, with the intention of causing grievous injuries and death to a large number of the innocent, defenseless and the unsuspecting civilians.

It was learned that on the night of attack, after 11:00 p.m. about 80 riot policemen, with shields and sticks, in 4 Dyna trucks and 2 cars, that looked like Pajero jeeps, arrived at the scene of the attack. Two officers got off from the 2 smaller cars and inspected the scene of the attack. The policemen threw the bodies of the dead and the injured, as if they were garbage, into the trucks. The two Hilux pickup trucks left at the scene were pushed down into the rice field and then they set them up as if they had overturned. The other two Hilux pickup trucks were set up to look like as if they had had a head-on collision. Then they took pictures of them with video and still cameras, for the record. On the morning of May 31, an emergency police station was set up near the compound of the Irrigation Department not far from the place of the incident. In order to eliminate all the evidence, water was brought in with municipal trucks and bloodstains and other marks were washed away by the policemen, using brooms⁶.

**Endnotes**

¹ State Peace and Development Council (the Military junta of Burma)
² Short for Daw Aung San Suu K’yi.
³ Union Solidarity and Development Association (a puppet organization of the SPDC)
⁴ A derogatory word for Indians and Westerners.
⁵ New Light of Myanmar, June 1, 2003 (SPDC, May 31 press conference)
⁶ Statement by Ko Chit Sann