

National League for Democracy
(97/b) West Shwegondine Road
Bahan, Rangoon

Statement 9 (1/99)

Contents of the letter dated 11 January 1999 from the Chairman of the National League for Democracy to the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council are reproduced below for all to know.

(START)

Subject- In the matter of the Chaung-Oo township NLD Organising Committee

1. We are in receipt of a report from our Organising Committee of Chaung-Oo township, Sagaing Division that the news of resignations on the 27 November 1998, published by the authorities in the papers the following day (28 November) is FALSE.
2. The actual facts in brief are that the Organising Committee had steadfastly refused to remove the League's signboard despite repeated demands, threats and intimidation by the Chairman of the administrative authorities of the township. Then, the said authority demanded to know the details about the time and place of transfer of the signboard. The Organising Committee's response was that they were awaiting instructions from the Central Executive Committee.
3. The Chairman was dissatisfied and on 16 October, 1998 menacingly said " If you people rely on your party we will rely on authority and apply our method".
4. At the monthly meeting of the Organising Committee (11 November 1998), a resolution was taken that no matter how much pressure was applied they would stand firm and not resign but continue with their activities as usual.
5. The Party's signboard vanished on the 27 November 1998, the circumstances of which were completely unknown to the current organising committee. On the next day (28 November) the news of resignation of 11 NLD members from Chaung-Oo township was announced by the authorities. Then, the newspapers of the authorities carried that news together with the picture of them and missing signboard. These eleven individuals are not members of the Chaung-Oo Township Organising Committee and had distanced themselves from the party a long time ago.
6. Removal of the NLD signboard and fabricating news with words and pictures that are false is illegal. Therefore we denounce such actions

and the persons who abused their administrative authority by resorting to illegal methods. We ask that suitable action be taken against the said administrators". (END)

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy

13 January 1999