

88-09

BURMA PRESS SUMMARY

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September was a difficult month in Burma, but thanks to the help of the American Embassy we have obtained all issues of The Working People's Daily except for Sept. 3, 7, 10, and 12-13, and the two issues published between Sept. 19-22. We also have a few issues of The Guardian (Sept. 4-5 and 15-17) and include items not duplicated in the WPD. - HCMacD.

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POLITICAL CRISIS

Request to Vacate Buildings

Aug. 31: Council of Ministers Announcement No. 1/88 reads [text]:

The State has already permitted in accordance with the Constitution the freedom of Assembly as well as the freedom of marching in procession.

Now, some violent disturbance-makers have raided the State-owned buildings and Township People's Council offices in some townships and are committing unlawful acts, it is learnt.

It is requested that such unilateral acts cease and those concerned vacate the State-owned buildings and the Township People's Council offices as of the moment this announcement is issued.

It is declared that the consequences of failure to comply with this request shall be the responsibility of the violent disturbance-makers.

By order

Sd Maung Ko, Secretary

Council of Ministers
Dated 31st August 1988 (WPD 9/1)

Dr. Maung Maung's Address

Sept. 1: President Dr. Maung Maung addressed the nation reiterating the government's political plans. An Extraordinary Party Congress will be held Sept. 12, followed by an Emergency Session of the Pyithu Hluttaw on Sept. 13, to decide on a referendum, to be held within a month, as to whether the single party system should continue or be replaced with a multi-party system. If a multi-party system is chosen, general elects will be held as soon as possible under the supervision of free and independent elections commissions. The party which is strongest at the Hluttaw will form a government.

This is the procedure required by the Constitution, which was adopted by the people in a referendum in which some of those who now call for changes must have participated. The Constitution in fact "provide controls against any single person or group from gaining and exercising absolute power," by spreading and sharing power down to the ward and village tract level. "Can you not wait until the people's wishes become clear and distinct...?"

He recounted the events of 1958 and 1962, and then "laid down" eight facts: (1) We are to abide by the Constitution, and that is why special meetings of the Party and the Pyithu Hluttaw are being called, and why only a referendum can change the one-party system provided by its Article 11. (2) "Please render help for enabling those who are highly regarded by the people" to supervise the referendum and elections. The Sangha and religious organizations are asked to supervise rights by protecting polling booths until votes are counted.

(3) Students are invited to participate in holding the referendum and compiling election rolls, as in the past. (4) "Student youths are now demanding for forming students' union. We consent to the forming of a student's union in a systematic way. We promise to rebuild the Students' Union building that was demolished in 1962. Let us rejoice at the foundation-laying ceremony in the near future" when law and order are restored.

(5) Sanghas, elders, and students have been forming temporary organizations to protect security in some places "as there are no administration there." We are thankful, and ask authorities, the Army, and Police to assist them. (6) Public servants are asked to resume their duties. "Action will not be taken against them." (7) The People's Tatmadaw is praised and honoured by all. Its representative has promised to perform whatever tasks are assigned by the [Party] Congress; "I would like to remind you people of that promise and to have faith in it." (8) In requesting aid from the Sangha we do not mean to mingle politics with religion. Requests are made "not for the sake of any political party but for the sake of the country," to ensure a peaceful life and fulfil peoples' needs for food, clothing, and shelter, and students' ability to pursue education. (WPD 9/2)

Government Plan Questioned

Sept. 2: A feature article entitled "Blue-print for a constitutional transition to multi-party democracy," by U Hla Aung, Professor of Law emeritus at Rangoon University and retired Attorney General, questions the legality of Dr. Maung Maung's proposals.

"It is my humble submission that the Plan is not likely to work. The political landscape in the country has changed beyond recognition. The people now feels free to speak. What has been happening during the last few weeks and is still happening throughout the country is a political upheaval on a scale unprecedented in Burma's modern history. It is virtually a people's grass-roots resolution."

It is doubtful whether a Party Conference can be held, or whether the delegates would rescind their earlier decision: "They may also feel free to speak out their minds and refuse to fall in line." If

there were a deadlock, the Central Executive Committee would resign, but this would give the Pyithu Hluttaw nothing to act upon and "the plan for a referendum will fall through."

Even if a referendum is held, it is not enough to repeal Article 11. The whole Constitution is based on the one-party system, and there is no system for abrogating it. Nevertheless, one possible solution would be legal and Constitutional.

"This is to submit to the forthcoming Party Conference, if it is ever held, a motion to abrogate the existing Constitution." The Pyithu Hluttaw could then confirm the resolution by a national referendum under Article 50, and "appoint an Interim Government to whom power is transferred."

If the Party Conference is deadlocked, it can be broken under Article 78, which empowers the Council of State to declare an emergency, under which it could call a meeting of the Pyithu Hluttaw under Article 78(a), which could in turn abrogate the Constitution and call a referendum to confirm it under Article 50, meanwhile appointing an Interim Government and dissolving itself under Article 62. (WPD 9/2)

Sept. 6: In a letter to WPD, Advocate U Ba Sein criticizes U Hla Aung's argument, saying that Article 62 was deleted from the Constitution by Pyithu Hluttaw Law No. 1 of 1981. In any case, the question is irrelevant. The Revolutionary Council came into power in 1962 without "resort to any constitutional provisions of the day," and the 1974 Constitution "came into force not by 'constitutional means' but as sequence of the 'coup' referred above." We need a new Constitution, and in fact the 1974 Constitution "has become defunct and ceased to be working all over the country." (WPD 9/6)

Unions & Organizations Founded

Aug. 31: Over 1,000 university and college teachers met on Aug. 30 at Room No. TE(1) of Toungoo Hall, Rangoon University (Main), to found an All University/College Teachers Association. Prof. Dr. Tin Aung (Physics) was named as Patron and Lecturer U San Tin (Burmese) as President. Speeches were given by Saya U Win Mun, Saya U Zin Wai, and Saya U San Tin. The teachers then staged a peaceful procession along Prome Road. (WPD 9/1) // Sept. 3: Association President U San Tin and Executive Committee members met with Minister for Education Dr. Kyaw Sein, who asked for student and teacher opinions on the questions of students' unions and the construction of the student union building mentioned by Dr. Maung Maung [see below].

U San Tin read out a declaration made on Sept. 2 by the Rangoon Universities Students Union and the All-Burma Federation of Students Unions, calling for abolishing the one-party system and for an interim government, pending which students will not accept the formation of a students union. U San Tin said the views of the students, the people, and the teachers "are one and the same," and that they have been staging peaceful demonstrations for them. He presented Statement No. 3, "reflecting the wishes and opinions of the teachers," to the Minister. (WPD 9/4)

Aug. 31: The Nattalin Township Students Union was formed at the Nattalin High School [Pegu Division], at a meeting attended by over 5,000 students and teachers. (Guardian 9/5)

Sept. 3: Former senior military commanders will meet "for the attainment of democracy and peace," at Arioya Maggin Dhammayone of Mogaung Pagoda on Sept. 6. "All former Tatmadaw members...have been invited to attend the meeting." (Guardian 9/4)

Sept. 3: The Rangoon Institute of Technology Students Union (temporary) was formed on Sept. 2 at the Universities Dhammayon; its office at R.I.T. will be open daily from 9 am to 4 pm. (WPD 9/4)

Sept. 3: The Burma Musicians Union (provisional) was founded, at a meeting at the Burma Music Council (central) attended by its Chairman Bogale U Tint Aung, Secretary U Lwin Myint, and Executive Committee members. The new Union replaces the old Burma Music Council, and will support democracy. Officers are:

Patrons: Col. U Than Nyunt (ret.), Bogale U Tint Aung, Sagaing U Hla Shwe, Sandaya U Aung Kyin, and U Min Naung

President: U Sai Hti Seng

Vice President: U Dollar

Secretary: Ko Ko Aung (Thabye)

(Guardian 9/4)

Sept. 3: The Institute of Economics Teachers Union (provisional) was formed. It condemned "the one-party dictatorship system which favours only one group of people; the people of the country have lost confidence in the monetary system; they cannot accept reports on the economic situations as correct appraisals; correct economic situations of the country are withheld so that the people may not know the truth; data and statistics are falsified and presented, and, the suggestions and advice given by economic experts are ignored." (Guardian 9/5)

Sept. 4: The Motion Picture Union (Provisional) was formed at a meeting attended by 400 film artistes, at 16 Wingaba Road.

Officers are:

Patrons: U Nyi Pu, Al U Tin Maung, U Thukha, U Win Pe, U Kye Myint

President: U San Shwe Maung (Aung Lwin)

Vice Presidents: U Khin Zaw (Director) and U Nyunt Win

Secretary: U Aung Myint Myat

Joint Secretaries: Maung Ni Lwin (Thabyu) and U Thu Maung

Treasurer: U Myat Tin Aye

Information Officer: Maung Moe Thu

Organizer: U Maung Maung (Zinyaw)

Auditors: U Ant Kyaw and U Sein Win Aung. (Guardian 9/5; WPD 9/6)

Sept. 4: The Burma News and Periodicals Union (Provisional) (Sar-ne-zin tha-megga (ya-yi)) was formed at a meeting of over 300 writers, journalists, poets, and editors at Primary School No. 4, Barr Street. Officers are:

Patrons: Saya Zawgyi, Saya Minthuwun, Saya Duwun, Saya Yan Aung, Saya U Khin Maung Latt, Sayamagyi Daw Khin Myo Chit, Saya Dagon Taya, and Sayamagyi Ludu Daw Ahmar

Chairman: Maung Thaw Ka

Vice Chairman: U Win Tin

Secretary: Maung Moe Thu

Joint Secretary: Win Khet

Executive Committee: Maung Ko Yu, Lay Thu Ye Ta-Oo, Maung Su Sann, Tha Ban, Maung Thway Thit, Khin Swe Oo, Aung Way, Nat Nwe, Min Lu, Myua Hnaung Nyo, Win Oo, Min Yu Wai, Maung Nay Win, Ahtauktaw Hla Aung, Paragu, Maung Sin Kye, Myo Win (Maha Nanda), Ko Lay Myat, Maung Sein Ni, Maung Myint Myat, Nyein Kyaw, Maung Sein Win (Padigon), and San San Nwe (Tharrawaddy).

All present announced their resignation from the Literary Workers Organization. (Guardian 9/5; WPD 9/6)

Sept. 4: The Aeronautical Engineers' Union (provisional) was formed. It pledged to "refrain from assisting in transportation activities that are meant for only a handful of a class of society and not for the benefit of the members of the Sangha, students and the people of the country." Members will not resume their duties until a decision has been made by the Workers' Union (provisional) of the BAC [Burma Airways Corporation]. (Guardian 9/5)

Sept. 5: Traditional theatrical artistes formed the Myan-ma-naing-ngan-lon-saing-ya Thabin Tha-megga-myar Ahpwe-gyok (ya-yi). Officers are:

President: U Ye Sein

General Secretary: U Thuya (Zagana) (WPD 9/6)

Sept. 5: The National Committee for Human Rights (provisional) was formed, devoted to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to human rights conventions signed by Burma. To avoid the people from having "recourse, as a last resort to rebelling against, tyranny and oppression" a non-governmental committee is essential. Officers are:

Patron: U Mohan

President: U Hla Aung

Secretary: U Hla Myint
(WPD 9/6) // Sept. 11: It changed its name to the Burma National Committee for Human Rights (Provisional). (WPD 9/14)
Sept. 6: The Burma Religious Organizations Salvation Committee was formed at the YMCA hall. Officers are:

Chairman: U Bo (YMBA)

Secretary: U Maung Maung Myint (WMCA)

Members: Rev. U Win Tin (Christian); Bishop Po Ray (Christian); Mr. S.A. Ginwalla (Muslim); U Tin Ngwe (Muslim); Mr. G.S. Sharma (Hindu); and U Ba Po (YMCA). (WPD 9/8)

Sept. 6: A University Teachers Association (Provisional) was formed at the Universities Dhammayone, with 1,500 representatives and teachers from universities and colleges all over the country. The opening speech was by Patron Rector U khin Maung Tint (Tetkatho Phone Naing), and an executive committee was elected. The meeting called on all teachers to join in general strike on Sept. 8. (WPD 9/8)

Sept. 7: The Guardian Staff Union (Provisional) was formed, with an 11-member executive committee, devoted to democracy and supporting worker rights in full. It resolved to participate in the general strike. (WPD 9/8)

Sept. 7: The Mon National Democratic Movement Committee (Rangoon) was formed and endorsed the struggle for democracy. Officers are:

Chairman: Mehm Ko Tha

Secretary: Nai Soe Kyi

(WPD 9/8)

Sept. 7: The Myan-ma Naing-ngan Pon-hneik-taik-myar Tha-megga (Ya-yi), was founded. Officers are:

President: U Than Aung (Aung Soe Moe Press)

General Secretary: U San Hla (Let-yway-zin Press) (WPD 9/9)

Sept. 8: A-lok-tha-mar Tha-megga (ye-yi) organizations have been founded by the Vehicles and Machinery Stores Trade Corporation (President: U Ko Gyi; Secretary: U Than Htay); the All-Burma Construction Corporation (condemned firing of demonstrators); the Agriculture Corporation (on strike until democracy attained); the Rangoon Auto Telephone Office (won't serve the Party Congress and Pyithu Hluttaw Session); Yangon Si-bin (will supply water only for welfare of the entire public). (WPD 9/9)

Sept. 12: The Burma Lawyers Union (Provisional) was formed. Officers are:

President: Daw Myint Myint Khin

General Secretary: U Ko Yu (WPD 9/14)

Sept 12: The Alokthama Tha-megga (Provisional) of the Paper, Stationery, Photo and Printed Matter Stores Trade Corporation was formed. Officers are:

President: U Nyunt Aung

Secretary: U Kyaw Thein

(WPD 9/16)

Sept. 14: The Rakhine Yahanpyo Union was formed at the Posts & Telecommunications Dhammayone, with 150 members, who demanded an interim government and denounced the BSPP as "having done nothing in memory of anti-imperialist and independence architect Sayadaw U Ottama." Officers are:

Chairman: Ashin Kawwida (Abbots Training School, Kaba Aye)

Vice Chairman: Ashin Kethara (Shwebontha-Kyaung, Bahan)

Secretary: U Tezawun (Aung Myintmo-kyaung, Hlaing)

Joint Secretary: Ashin Wilartha (Peinne-kyaung, Sanchaung)

Executive Committee Members: Ashin Pandita (Shwebontha-kyaung); Ashin Kawthalla (Pyinnyalinkarya-kyaung); Ashin Warathami (Danyawaddy-kyaung); Ashin Eindawbartha (Aung-mingalar-kyaung); and Ashin Zatila (Zabuthir-kyaung). (Guardian 9/16)

Sept. 14: The Rangoon Institute of Technology Teachers tha-megga (temporary) was formed. Officers are:

President: U Kyaw Thein (Civil Engineering Department)

Secretary: U Tin Maung Oo (Mechanical Engineering Department)

(WPD 9/17)

Sept. 15: Amnesty International (Burma) (Provisional) was formed at No. 144 Sanchaung Street, Rangoon. Officers are:

Patrons: U Aung Gyi, Daw Khin Myo Chit

President: U Khin Maung Latt

General Secretary: Daw Hla Than.

(WPD 9/16)

Sept. 15: The A-lok-thama Tha-megga (Provisional) of the Cinema Halls in Rangoon Division, Motion Picture Corporation was formed, called for an interim government, and praised the brave staff of Myanma Athan [Burma Broadcasting Services] in opposing government coercion. Officers are:

President: U Pwint Kyaw

Secretary: U Tha Htut.

(WPD 9/16)

Sept. 15: The Law Students Thamegga (Provisional) was formed. Officers are:

President: Ko Tint Swe

Secretary: Ko Khin Maung Myint.

(WPD 9/16)

Sept. 15: The Kachin National Democratic Association (Provisional) issued Announcement 1/88. (WPD 9/16)

Sept. 15: The Sidewalk Vendors Thamegga was formed. (WPD 9/16)

Sept. 15: The Democratic Nyunt-paung A-hsi-ayon was formed, and called for a parallel government with U Aung Gyi, U Tin Oo, Daw Aung San Su Kyi, and students, workers, and peasants. (WPD 9/16)

Sept. 15: The Myanma-naing-ngan yu-pa-bay-da bwe-yu-myar Athin (ya-yi) (The Burma Physics Graduates Association-provisional) was formed at the Hong Kong Hall on Canal Street. It was attended by professors, teachers, and 200 physics graduates. Officers are:

Patrons: Dr. Maung Maung Kha (Emeritus Professor of Physics and retired Rector, Rangoon University); Dr. Myo Tint (Professor, Mandalay University); Dr. Sein Tun (Professor, Moulmein University); Dr. Zin Aung (Associate Professor, Rangoon University & Head of Department of the Universities Research Department)

President: U Thein Htut (Retired Assistant Lecturer, Physics Department, Rangoon University)

Vice Presidents: U Thein Aung (Lecturer, Physics Department, Rangoon University); Dr. Myint Kyi (Lecturer, Physics Department, Rangoon University)

Secretary: U Myint Thein.

(WPD 9/16)

Sept. 15: The Rangoon District alokthamar tha-megga (yayi) of the Timber Corporation was formed and demanded an interim government. Officers are:

President: U Aye Pe

Secretary: U Htin Latt.

(WPD 9/17)

Sept. 16: The Burma Tour Guide Association (temporary) was formed and demanded an interim government. Officers are:

President: U Mya Thein

Secretary: U Zaw Zaw

(WPD 9/17)

Sept. 16: The Survey Department alokthamar tha-megga (yayi) was formed and demanded an interim government. Officers are:

President: U Win Maung.

(WPD 9/17)

Sept. 16: The pyithu yekha hpyay-tin-yay com-mi-ti (Committee for supplying food to the people) of the Rangoon Universities Students Union was formed at No. 2 High School, Latha, and will receive donations in cash or kind. (WPD 9/17)

Sept. 16: The Institute of Medicine 1 Teachers Union (Provisional) was formed at the Institute of Medicine, Lanmadaw. Officers are:

Patrons: Daw Kyu Kyu Swe (OG); Professor Daw Hnin Yee (Medicine); Professor Daw Hta Kyu (Pathology); U Ko Win (surgery)

President: U Myo Min Aung (Paediatrician)

Secretary: U Nyunt Thein (pathology)
(WPD 9/17)

Sept. 16: The "Loketha Pyithu Nezin" Newspaper Workers Union (Provisional) was organized, and distributed 12 pyis of rice to each worker. Officers are:

Patrons: U Sao Kai Pha, Daw Yee Yee Mya, Daw Aye Aye Maw, U Han Tun, and U Ba Hla

Chairman: U Thein Tun (Circulation)

Secretary: U Zaw Win (Proof-reading)
(Guardian 9/17)

Sept. 16: The Bassein Degree College Teachers Union (Provisional-Rangoon) was formed at Toungoo Hall, Rangoon University, "with a view to taking part in the struggle for democracy." Officers are:

Patrons: Dr. Sein Yin (Prof., Physics Dept.); Daw Kyin May Nwe (Prof., Burmese Dept.); U Thein Naing (Additional Prof., History Dept.); Daw Khin Mya Swe (Lecturer, Biology Dept.)

Chairman: U Tin Maung Nyunt (Head of Geology Dept.)

Secretary: U Myo Thant (Demonstrator, Burmese Dept.)
(Guardian 9/17)

Sept. 16: The All-Burma Peasants Union (Provisional) is scheduled to be formed on Sept. 20, under the sponsorship of the Rangoon General Strike Committee. (Guardian 9/17)

Joint Opposition

Sept. 5: A joint press conference at 1 pm, held at the Container Service Project Head Office of the Ports Corporation, by retired General U Tin Oo, Daw Aung San Su Kyi, and the Supervisory Committee for Students Movement (Kyaung-tha-mya Hloke-sha-hmu Kyee-kyat-yay oo-saung-hmu).

Dr. Tin Myo Win of the Supervisory Committee read out the following demands: "abolishment of the one-party system; establishment of a democratic system in accordance with the desire of the entire masses; and formation of an interim government with personnel approved by the people excluding members of the Burma Socialist Programme Party and organs of state power."

Replies to these demands must be given, on radio and television, by 8 pm on Sept. 7 at latest. Otherwise a general strike will be staged throughout the country and "continued efforts would be made to bring to a standstill the entire state machinery."

Dr. Thet Min of the Oo-saung-hmu Aphwe said that organization would act under the leadership of Gen. Tin Oo and Daw Aung San Su Kyi; they said they supported the demands of the Supervisory Committee.
(WPD 9/6)

Sept. 5: A General Strike Committee (Rangoon) opened an office at Room No. 19/20 of the Cardiac Ward of the Rangoon General Hospital. It was formed by delegates from the All Burma Students Union (Tayawin) organizing committee, the Rangoon Division Rahan-pyoma Tha-megga, the mills and factories workers tha-megga, the health services personnel tha-megga, the Myanma naing-ngan Shaynaygyi-mya athin and the Myanma naing-ngan in-gin-nier hnit pi-thu ka-athin, the Tekkatho sayamya tha-megga, the sarpay hnit anupyinnya-shin-mya athin and the kon-the-gyi-mya athin, and other groups. (WPD 9/6)

Sept. 14: The "Big Four" of U Nu, U Aung Gyi, Daw Aung San Su Kyi, and Thura U Tin Oo pleaded for patience and continued peaceful demonstrations. The people no longer have faith in the government nor the Elections Commission. "They urged the entire people including students to use moral courage as the true weapons and temerity and unflinchingly continue the general strikes and peaceful demonstration till the ultimate goal is achieved. (Guardian and WPD 9/15)

Sept. 14: Following a meeting with the Election Commission, Daw Aung San Su Kyi, U Aung Gyi, and Thura U Tin Oo sent a memorandum to the Myanma Naing-ngan-lon-saing-ya Kyaung-thu Tha-megga [All Burma Federation of Student Unions] to ask for patience and explain that their discussions were based "mainly on the fundamental principle for

forming an interim government." Students were running short of patience, and had requested that an interim government be formed within 48 hours. But to form an interim government before the present government stepped down "would be tantamount to forming a parallel government." Only an interim government formed after removing the present government would be genuine. (Guardian & WPD 9/15)

Sept. 14: A letter was sent to Daw Aung San Su Kyi, former Gen. U Tin Oo, former Prime Minister U Nu, and former Brig.Gen. Aung Gyi by U Aung Than (elder brother of National Leader Bogyoke Aung San) and eleven former Members of Parliament, former University Students Union leaders and Thakins "highlighting the importance of interim government." The letter urged the leaders to implement the request of the All-Burma Federation of Students Unions (Provisional) for an interim government. (Guardian & WPD 9/15)

Demonstration Sites Restricted

Sept. 7: The Council of State reiterated its Notification No. 119/87 of Oct. 8, 1987, concerning places where demonstrations are prohibited, namely:

The Pyithu Hluttaw building and its environs bounded by Prome Road, Ahlone Road, the eastern fence of the President's House compound, and Windsor Road; and

An area bounded on the East by Link Road, Martyrs Mausoleum lane and Road, Shwegondaing Road, and U Wisara Road; on the South by Ahlone Road, Godwin Road, Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, and Shan Road; on the West by Mission Road, Ahlone Road, and Lower Kemmendine Road; on the North by Bagaya Road, and Boundary Road. (WPD 9/8)

Open Letter to Dr. Maung Maung

Sept. 9: [Full text from published photocopy in WPD]:

To,

Dr Maung Maung
President of Burma
Chairman of the B.S.P.P.

12-9-1988.

Your Excellency,

I am a Doctor who never had the least interest in politics. I merely clung on to my own principles that, my task in this particular instance, is to be of some service to humanity.

For the past six months, I stubbornly went on with the only job I have been trained for. I tended the sick, and helped the needy as much as I could. I did not march and cry out in unison with the crowds, neither joined the audience of great moving speeches made, never even lolled near the many walls, to read the multitudes of posters. With my work outside home, and the duties of a full time housewife added on, I did not have much time either.

"No man is an island", is a phrase very appropriate for these particular months. Despite attempts to stay aloof, I could not continue to cheat myself, when my heart ached at the happenings that went on during the past six months. The senseless loss of lives have been terribly depressing. There have been much morbidity and mortality throughout the whole country, affecting a lot of Burma's students, some from the rest of the people, and a few from the army and the police force. Are they all not human beings?

When you first appeared on the television, I listened to every word you uttered in absolute awe. I revered your age, and believed in your goodness and sincerity. My heavy heart became much lighter.

As the days passed, I began to realize that inspite [sic] of your principles, integrity, and goodwill, luck was failing you. What horrible coincidences it was, that almost all the prisons throughout the whole country suffered from being broken in, and the prisoners good and bad being released almost simultaneously. Never in my life have I read, or heard of such incidences to be contagious, or the gaolers so helpless. The obvious, deliberate, creating of a state of

chaos, sent our poor people into states of misery and nervous breakdowns. Which evil persons were responsible? Some people pretend to know, quite a lot actually know, but a person ill-informed and truly ignorant about such matters like myself, dare not even venture to imagine as to who may be responsible. Accusations following mere contemplations would be dreadfully wrong.

Your second speech, although still impressive, left me uneasy and guilty. You requested the voices on the streets to simmer down, so as to give a chance of say, to the many staying quietly in the houses or under roofs elsewhere like myself. I am a professional worker, a full-time housewife, and a mother. I, like many others have been busy, although working quietly indoors, easing the sick and continuing the sometimes thankless non-ending work of a housewife. I have not been able to be out in the streets for these reasons, and not because I disagreed with most of the people out there.

Your third speech, although still containing much correctness, shook my conscience badly enough to make me attempt to write this letter to you. Why and how the gentle people of our country could have been pushed and provoked into such actions?

I have been told by a few indignant persons who admire and trust you just like I do, as to WHY the massive majority have become so impatient and unreasonable, when you have already promised them fair elections in one and a half, to three months time. Yes, I too wonder why?

I just cannot understand the aggressive impatience of the majority of our people, when we all know, and cannot deny, the amazing and admirable patience and tolerance they have shown over the past twenty six years. The economic woes they managed to smile through, the humiliations they learned to swallow, and the degradations they adjusted and adapted to. I do not think, that it is just a case of, "Once bitten twice shy". Trust of the masses has to be won and consolidated. Trust for leaders if totally destroyed, can hardly ever be corrected.

Please, please try to save our country from further bloodshed. I still am one of the numbers however few, who still believe that you can do it. A lifetime is a very short while in the long long samsara for all living beings. A strong Buddhist belief is that, attaining a human life is most blessed, and advantageous, as it gives one the opportunity to practice a lot of goodness. Being given a chance to rule a nation like ours, is your wonderful privilege. I am pleading with you to use all your goodness, perceptions, and metta to save your country from prolonged agony.
Your Sincere Countryperson,

Dr. HOPE.

(WPD 9/16)

Extraordinary Party Congress

Sept. 10: The Extraordinary Party Congress was preceded by the 12th meeting of the Burma Socialist Programme Party Central Committee at 8 am in the Pyithu Hluttaw conference hall. It approved the Party Congress, and the resignation of a Central Committee member.

The Congress opened, with 968 of 1080 delegates (89.63%) present.

Chairman Dr. Maung Maung's address. In his opening address, BSPP Chairman Dr. Maung Maung said that conditions no longer permit a referendum on the one-party system. "The people are faced with difficulties in meeting food and shelter needs. That is why the decision to hold, as speedy as possible, general elections under the multi-party system has been made and it is therefore evident that the interest of the people is placed before the interest of the Party." He spoke of the history of the Lanzin [BSPP] Party and how it was originally a people's party. "But the weakness of the Party as it emerged as the ruling party and grew as the ruling party [sic]. There have been practically very few sacrifices, risks and strenuous efforts. The power can absolutely destroy the man. When without power, it is natural that there will be craving for power. There will be a few who do not crave for power except for the Arahats."

"After reviewing the present disorderly scene, he said "we should not entertain anger and prejudice nor speak ill of politicians of party organizations that will come into being. Instead, we must face the law of impermanence and continue the march along the Burmese way. Truth shall prevail. Metta (loving kindness) will overcome dosa or anger."

The Hluttaw, he said, "will be held tomorrow and its decision is to be sought so as to change over to multi-party democracy on experimental basis in accord with the resolution passed by the Party Congress. Arrangements will then be made to be able to hold, within the shortest possible time, the most just and freest general election in which various parties can compete.

"It will be complicated and time-consuming if elections are to be held at Hluttaw and lower levels. Therefore only the Hluttaw is to be elected and the forthcoming Hluttaw is to form a government. The Constitution is then to be amended as necessary.

"The formation of commission with personalities who are highly regarded by the people and are worthy of being on it is to be submitted to the Hluttaw meeting tomorrow to supervise...the general elections The Commission is also to seek the help of members of Sangha, students and town elders to supervise polling booths....

"It has been a tradition among the Tatmadaw members to vote freely on their own will in the general elections. They will be able to uphold this tradition. The Tatmadaw would not canvass for any party....

"The public services personnel should act the same way.... They should be loyal only to the country and the people."

Party General Secretary U Aye Ko justified the convening of the Congress and review the past few months' events. Party Chairman [U Ne Win] on July 23-25 had called for a referendum on the party system. Party delegates had had bitter experiences with a multi-party system, and were concerned with the priority of economic problems. But disturbances arose, political and economic, and on Aug. 3 the Council of State proclaimed military administration in Rangoon.

At the 11th meeting of the Party Central Committee on Aug. 19, the General Secretary discussed long and short-term economic changes. Chairman Dr. Maung Maung called for working together to bring about economic development in peace and tranquillity.

The Emergency Session of the Fourth Pyithu Hluttaw on Aug. 19 established the Commission for Ascertaining the Desires and Aspirations of the People, and paved the way for the Commission to seek out public views in September and report to the regular Pyithu Hluttaw session in October.

The BSPP Chairman addressed the nation on Aug. 24, and said an Extraordinary Party Congress would be called to decide on a referendum on the party system, and that the Chairman and the Central Executive Committee would resign if the Party did not accept. If the referendum approved a multi-party system, the Pyithu Hluttaw would enact it, and present leaders would not run in the ensuing elections.

The Commission for Ascertaining the Desires and Aspirations of the People was dissolved on Aug. 24, and the Council of State solicited suggestions for members of a 25-member National Referendum Commission. Martial law in Rangoon and Prome was withdrawn on Aug. 24.

On Sept. 1, Chairman Dr. Maung Maung explained the Constitutional necessity for a referendum under Article 11 of the Constitution. And the matter of the referendum needs to be submitted to an Extraordinary Party Congress, and thus this Congress was convened.

Congress votes. The Extraordinary BSPP Congress then voted, "by more than 75% of the delegates" and "decided to hold general elections under multi-party system cancelling the proposed national referendum on the option between one-party system and the multi-party system." (WPD 9/11)

Daw Aung San Su Kyi

Sept. 10: Daw Aung San Su Kyi issued an announcement [full text]:

The achievement of multi-party democracy is just one of our demands. The demand for forming an interim government is not yet met. In addition, there remains for them to hold a just and fair election. We cannot accept the election to be sponsored by an interim government which is formed by BSPP members and the present government. We only want the formation of an interim government which will be acceptable to the entire public. (WPD 9/11)

League for Democracy and Peace

Sept. 1: U Nu's "de-mo-cray-si hnit nyein-chan-yay a-phwe (ya-yi) [League of Democracy and Peace (Provisional)] issued a statement requesting the public to refrain from occupying Peoples' Council offices, so as to demonstrate that any party, including the Lanzin Party, could stand in the general elections. [photo]

Sept. 4: The League of Democracy and Peace (provisional) (Di-mo-cray-si hnit nyein-chan-yay aphwe (ya-yi)) Central Executive Committee issued its Declaration No. 2 after a meeting held at No. 10, Wingaba Road, [full text]:

Members of Sangha, students and the people:

(1) The general strike will be held on 8 September, 1988, for bringing about multi-party system in the country within the shortest possible time.

(2) We urge the members of the Sangha and the people who support our policy and work programmes to energetically take part in the general strike.

(3) In doing so, it is here requested to adhere to the following:

(a) To have unity among the mass;

(b) destructive elements are likely to commit all sorts of acts of violence and the people are to show perfect discipline to face such acts;

(c) this struggle will be in the form of power of will and not to resort to violence in retaliation of any kind of enticement. [photo in Guardian] (WPD and Guardian 9/5)

Sept. 7: "General Secretary of Democracy and Peace Group (Provisional) former General Thura U Tin Oo was in tears when he went to see the groups' patron former Prime Minister U Nu at 9 am today to tell the latter how grieved he was having witnessed rampant looting in Rangoon today by the Army." U Nu met with the Executive Committee of the Group at No. 10 Wingaba Road headquarters, which issued Emergency Declarations Nos. 3 and 4.

Declaration No. 3 said there had been "rampant looting" of food and goods by armed soldiers since Sept. 6. The soldiers "looted what they wanted first and then organizing their cohorts in musty [sic; mufti?] and the underprivileged poor of the communities perpetrated further looting." This had occurred in Rangoon and other cities, and was aimed at "overtly altering the path of the people's spontaneous uprising for democracy." "Respectable sections of the Tatmadaw...working to redeem themselves before the people" were requested to prevent continued atrocities. The Group called on Dr. Maung Maung's government "not to continue on the path that was alienated from the people," but to hold discussions for an amicable solution.

Declaration No. 4 reminded the clergy and public that the economy was in a shambles, and "the poor masses can today find no way out of the high cost of food." Unless economic malice is stopped, anti-democratic elements will continue to subvert, and may even spoil, the people's demonstration for democracy. "Even now some armed soldiers are in the lead in looting food and goods stock and reducing the people to thieves and thugs." The Group called on communities to collect rice, cooking oil, etc. to distribute to the poor. (WPD 9/8)

Sept. 10: Three ex-commanders, former Brig-Gen. U Aung Shwe, former Gen. U Tin Oo, and former Col. U Saw Myint resigned from former Prime Minister U Nu's League for Democracy and Peace. Thakin Chit Maung (Vidhura), a prominent figure in the League, also

disclosed his refusal to be on the cabinet led by U Nu. (WPD 9/11)

Sept. 14: U Nu said he was still Prime Minister of Burma under the 1947 Constitution. That was why he declared he was Prime Minister and promised to hold elections quickly. He had no Ministers under him, and if the leaders of democratic forces U Aung Gyi, U Tin Oo, Bo Yan Naing, and Daw Aung San Su Kyi (who is "friendly like a daughter") would join with him he will create 20 Ministerships, including representatives of students, workers, peasants, and boycott leaders. If the majority accepted, elections would be held Jan. 1, 1989. If the BSPP disturbed the election, he would seek assistance of UN peace keeping forces. He would ask donors for the Ky 5 million needed for holding the general election.

The statement was made in a meeting of U Nu and Committee Members of his De-mo-cra-si hnit Nyein-chan-ye Aphwe [League for Democracy and Peace] with Committee members of the Myanma Naing-ngan-lon Saing-ya Kyaung-tha Tha-megga Aphwe-chok (Ya-yi) [All-Burma Federation of Students Unions (Provisional)] at the Institute of Medicine 1. U Nu said there was no difference of opinion between him and the opposition leaders, and he would do his utmost in co-ordination with them. The students said they would consult with other student leaders about U Nu's program. Bohmu Aung and others who are members of the League, student leaders, and newsmen were present. (Guardian & WPD 9/15)

Sept. 15: The Union of Burma Democracy & Peace Group (provisional) [Note: same as League for Democracy and Peace-HCM] issued Declaration No. 6, noting that the Executive Committee had met on Sept. 9, with 26 members present including Patron U Nu, Chairman Mahn Win Maung, Vice-Chairman Bohmu Aung, and General Secretary Thura U Tin Oo. (Subsequently, General-Secretary Thura U Tin Oo and Executive Committee members ex-Brig. Gen. Aung Shwe and former Col. U Saw Myint had resigned from the group).

The statement said the meeting had unanimously passed the following resolutions:

(a) Patron U Nu claimed the premiership under the 1947-48 Constitution and "his taking back of power was believed to be a just act, and thus it deserved unanimous support.

(b) Patron U Nu, after taking back power, would implement the people's demand for democratic rights, and would form a national government, to form an election commission for holding a free and clean election, and to hold a multi-party election in a nearest and suitable time.

(1) the national government would form the election commission with persons "respected and relied upon by the people."

(2) the election commission would hold the general election without failure.

The statement also said that unity of opposition forces was essential, and that U Nu's government would hand over power to the government which would be formed after the general election. (Guardian 9/16)

Sept. 16: The League for Democracy and Peace (Temporary) denied the abolition of the League reported in some news and periodicals, and said it would continue until General Elections are held. It is making arrangements to sell rice to the needy, and distribute rice free to the poor. (WPD 9/17)

AFPFL

Sept. 12: The Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (Burma), that was dissolved under the Law Safeguarding National Unity and Solidarity, 1964, proclaimed by the Revolutionary Council on 28 March 1964, will be formed again, according to AFPFL statement 1/88. The government is called upon to return to it all funds and property formerly belonging to the AFPFL. (Guardian 9/16)

Sept. 14: Daw Aung San Su Kyi has been offered the chairmanship of the Hpa-hsa-pa-la A-phwe-chok [Anti-Fascist Peoples Freedom League--AFPFL];, in a letter signed by the organization's provisional General Secretary, Daw Cho Cho Kyaw Nyein. (WPD 9/15) //

Sept. 17: According to the spokesman for Daw Aung San Su Kyi [sic--presumably Daw Cho Cho Kyaw Nyein is meant] there has been no reply to the offer, and he did not give the reason. (WPD 9/18)

Sept. 16: The Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (Burma) held a press conference to explain its objectives. The AFPFL has nothing to do with former Prime Minister U Nu. When the AFPFL was split into the Clean and Stable factions, U Nu changed the name of the AFPFL (Clean) faction into the Pyidaungsu Party. The AFPFL (Stable) faction has retained the name of AFPFL (Burma) "as it has historical essence."

AFPFL objectives are:

- to oppose fascism;
- to safeguard Burmese independence and sovereignty;
- to make democracy flourish in Burma;
- to strive for amity between all national groups, and to practise an independent foreign policy with equal goodwill to all nations;

AFPFL work programs include political, economic, culture and foreign affairs. It will reorganize all over the country at all levels. It will support an interim government unrelated to the BSPP. It will help the interim government hold free and fair general elections. (Guardian 9/17)

Back-to-Work Orders

Sept. 13: Council of Ministers Announcement No. 2/88 called on all workers to "return to their respective worksites and resume their duties forth with so as to show their gratitude to the people." (WPD 9/14)

Sept. 16: Council of Ministers Announcement No. 3/88 notes the widespread absenteeism of public workers, but says the "demand of the public service personnel [for multi-party elections] has been met.... The service personnel are to pay service as a State machinery to any government elected by people's votes...."

"Therefore, public service personnel are to return to their respective worksites and resume their duties beginning 19 September 1988. For those who do not return to their respective work till 26 September there is no way but action to be taken against them under the Civil Service Regulations in the interest of the people, it is announced." (WPD 9/17)

Two Politicians Detained

Sept. 16: Military officers with over 100 troops came to the home of Thakin Tin Mya in Ching Chong Avenue, Bahan Township, at 11 pm Sept. 15, and detained him. Thakin Tin Mya was formerly on the Politburo of the Burma Communist Party (Red Flag) and the Central Committee of the Burma Socialist Programme Party. Recently he has been working closely with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. She offered no comment.

Similarly, officers and over 100 troops came to the home of Bo Ye Htut (Thirty Comrades) in Myenigon, San Chaung Township, at 4 am Sept. 16 and took him away. He has been a leading member of the ex-commanders and veterans group, which has written Dr. Maung Maung about his arrest. In a letter, its Chairman, ex-Brig. Aung Shwe, said Bo Ye Htut had no intention of seeking a position in the interim government or any political power. (Guardian 9/17)

Sept. 17: Daw Aung San Su Kyi issued a statement in connection with the detention of Thakin Tin Mya, who was reportedly "taken away for 'discussion' from his home on the night of 15 September." The Statement says Daw Aung San Su Kyi is aware of the concern of some because U Tin Mya is a communist. U Tin Mya was assisting in office work and "he has no right to give political advice and Daw Aung San Su Kyi has not sought such advice." The Statement adds that she "is a person who is fighting for democracy and therefore it is impossible for her to have faith in communism." It is her personal belief that "the fight for genuine democracy has reached the final stage and the people's aspirations will soon be fulfilled. Hence violence is not

necessary and measures for rehabilitating the nation will have to be considered." (WPD 9/18)

[Military Coup d'Etat]

[Sept. 18: On September 18 a military-dominated State Law and Order Restoration Council (LORC), headed by Chief of Staff of the Defence Services General Saw Maung, took power in Rangoon, and dissolved all existing government authorities. Burma's name reverted to the pre-1962 "Union of Burma." The LORC promised free multi-party election as soon as law and order were restored. We have not received either of the two issues of WPD that appeared in the Sept. 19-22 period, giving the specific news of the takeover and initial personnel appointments of the new regime, but have compiled a list of major nominees in the Government section of this Summary. -- HCM]

Gen. Saw Maung's Address

Sept. 23: General Saw Maung, Chairman of the State Law and Order Council, addressed the nation, as follows [full text]:

Rahans, laity and the people,

I wish to submit certain points of clarification so that rahans, laity and the entire people would understand the position of the Tatmadaw, and so that they would have no misunderstanding of the Tatmadaw's intention in connection with the prevailing situation in the country. The demonstrations which occurred throughout the country began as a political movement in which peaceful demonstrations were used with the aim of attaining genuine democracy. Later, vicious and violence-prone unsavoury elements infiltrated the movement and created violent disturbances, threats and cruelty and other anarchistic activities resulting in conditions in which the law and order and peace and tranquillity in the entire country became threatened. Conditions became uncontrollable and the situation was such that it was practically impossible to resolve matters through political means. It was a moment of great danger for the entire nation. It was at this point that the Tatmadaw, though realizing that it would be confronted with many difficulties, nevertheless had to unavoidably assume the responsibilities of the State power. It was with misgivings that the Tatmadaw was forced to take this course of action and it is suffering much unhappiness.

Our purpose in forming the government was merely to establish the fundamental characteristics of a sovereign nation and expedite relations with other countries as well as for the distribution of responsibilities. The fact that only a few persons have been assigned a large number of portfolio responsibilities is clearly indicative that there is no desire whatsoever to cling on to power for a long period. I and all my colleagues, and all Tatmadawmen most respectfully and honestly give our word to all rahans, laity and the people that we do not wish to cling to State power for long. As it has been stated in Declaration No. 1/88 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of which I am the leader, steps have already commenced to implement the following measures immediately:-

(a) Maintenance of law and order; prevailing peace and tranquillity in the country.

(b) Providing secure and smooth transportation.

(c) The State Law and Order Restoration Council will strive for the better conditions of food, clothing and shelter of the people and render necessary assistance to the private sector and the cooperatives to do so.

The fourth point of the first paragraph of our organization's Declaration No. 1/88 concerns the holding of multi party democracy general elections. Arrangements are being made to implement this measures [sic] as soon as possible. We wish to inform all citizens of the nation and all political parties and organizations which would be running for elections that work has commenced on carrying out the necessary measures. In this connection the political parties and organizations which would be running for elections ought to be making preparations to get themselves registered according to law. It has

been just a few days since we assumed responsibilities. This being the case, we wish to suggest that the organizations concerned maintain stable control of their own organizations instead of making over-zealous demands at a time when conditions have not yet stabilized.

We are Tatmadawmen. Our organization which is made up largely of Tatmadawmen, is absolutely loyal to the nation. We wish you to be fully convinced that we would not in any way and under any circumstances abrogate the oath of loyalty which has been sworn towards the nation and the people.

We wish to submit our supplications to the Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee that we would most respectfully make note of the request made by the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee on 20 September.

At this point I wish to say a few words about service personnel. A service personnel who is carrying out the duties entrusted by the State should not be under the influence of any political party or organization. All such personnel are obligated to carry out all responsibilities and duties which have been lawfully entrusted by any government which comes to power and which will work for the welfare of the nation. The prevailing situation today is that our nation has overcome a period of disruption and has achieved a reasonable measure of stability. Reconstruction activities are to begin as quickly as possible even as increasing stability is achieved. We urge to join hands with us and work together so that the multi-party democracy system for which the people have been aspiring may be successfully established.

We wish to warn that it is important that bad conditions do not occur again at a time when a reasonable amount of stability is being achieved; we warn that mass looting and destruction of public property, mills and factories by unsavoury elements should not occur. We wish to repeat the warning that we will have to take effective action since we cannot tolerate such mob-criminality.

As the period for which we assume responsibility is a short one, we can provide only limited attention to such matters as health, education and other social activities. Long-term improvements in health, education and other social activities are to be carried out by the government which comes to power after the multi-party democracy general elections.

Our Tamadaw on its part would continue to carry out the original duty of national defence and security and the maintenance of law and order after handing over power to the government which emerges after the free and fair general elections in which the citizens of the nation would be able to exercise their full democratic rights.

Such being the case we request all rahans, laity and the people who wish to have a multi-party democracy and all political parties and organizations which would run for elections to join in, and work for the quickest possible holding of a free and fair multi-party democracy general elections. (WPD 9/24)

Articles Support New Regime

Feature articles appeared in WPD endorsing the new regime: i.e., "A prominent milestone in Burma's history," by Kaung Chit (Sept. 24); "Do not make things difficult," by Maung Ya-hta-bu-ta," (Sept. 26); "Let's return to work and repay the gratitude," (Sept. 28); and "If genuine democracy is wanted speedily," by Phongyi Kyaungtha (Sept. 30).

ELECTIONS

Elections Commission Meets

Sept. 13: The Multi-party Democracy General Elections Commission held a meeting for the general elections at its office at No. 94 Natmauk Road.

Present were U Aung Gyi, Daw Aung San Yu Kyi, Thura U Tin Oo, chairmen and secretaries of the Yangon Myo-Ione Saing-ya Rahan Pyo

Tha-megga A-phwe-chok, Myanma Naing-ngan-lone Saing-ya A-lok-thama Tha-megga A-phwe-chok (Rangoon), U-paday Yone-myar Saing-ya A-lok-thama Tha-megga (Rangoon), Tetkatho Bwe-ya Kyaung-tha-haung-myar A-phwe, De-mo-cray-si Taik-pwe-win Kyaungtha-kyaungthu-myar A-phwe and Rangoon universities.

Commission Chairman U Ba Htay welcomed those present, and said that "though the Commission was formed by the Pyithu Hluttaw in accordance with the law, it was a non-partisan body and that the Commission would hold free and fair multi-party democracy general elections." He said electoral work would not be confided to the People's Councils, but would be carried out with the assistance of the Sangha, town elders, and students. "In counting of votes, ballot boxes would not be taken away from one place to another and the number of votes would be counted only at the polling booth..."

U Aung Gyi, Daw Aung San Su Kyi, Thura U Tin Oo, and others said that as the Commission was founded by a government in whom the people had no faith, it could not be accepted or trusted by the people. Elections in three months cannot be free and fair where the parties, which have yet to be formed, have not collected any funds to run against a party using State funds and organized for 26 years. Moreover, all Tatmadawmen and most service personnel are still [BSPP] party members; and people will not believe in their neutrality. An interim government should be formed as quickly as possible, they said. [photo] (WPD 9/14)

Officials To Quit Party

Sept. 16: Proclamation 14/88 of the Council of State, signed by Chairman Maung Maung, states that it has, in response to the suggestion of the Multi-Party Democracy General Elections Commission, issued the following notification [text]:

As the public service personnel have to be loyal to the State and serve the interest of the people and in accord with the multi-party system practice before, members of the Pyithu Tatmadaw, People's Police Force, employees of the various public services organizations, State economic enterprises such as boards and corporations and other service personnel who enjoy salaries and allowances provided by the State shall not be a member of any political parties and organizations including the Burma Socialist Programme Party with effect from today.

On the same day, a Decision of the [BSPP] Central Executive Committee, signed by General Secretary U Aye Ko, provides that all such persons "have been permitted to resign from membership of the Burma Socialist Programme Party as of today in compliance with the practice under the multi-party system before. (WPD 9/17)

Sept. 17: The Ministry of Defence, in accordance with the decision of the BSPP that "all members of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air Force) have been permitted to resign from membership in the Lanzin Party," issued an order calling on all military to "freely discharge their original three responsibilities namely: (1) perpetuation of the Union; (2) national unity; and (3) safeguarding the sovereignty." (WPD 9/18)

New Elections Commission Formed

Sept. 21: Multi-Party Democracy General Elections Commission Law No. 1/88 was promulgated by State LORC Chairman Gen. Saw Maung, as follows [text]:

For the purpose of holding the multiparty democracy general elections successfully in the Union of Burma, the State Law and Order Restoration Council has enacted the following Law.

Chapter I - Title

1. This Law shall be called the Multiparty Democracy General Elections Commission Law.

Chapter II - Formation

2. The Multiparty Democracy General Elections Commission referred to in paragraph 2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Declaration No. 1/88 dated 18 September 1988 shall continue to

function.

3. The State Law and Order Restoration Council may increase the membership and substitute new members in vacant posts of the Multiparty Democracy General Elections Commission.

Chapter III - Rights and Responsibilities

4. The rights and responsibilities of the Multiparty Democracy General Elections Commission are as follows:-

(a) to prepare the successful holding of free and fair multiparty democracy general elections;

(b) to submit necessary laws for enactment by the State Law and Order Restoration Council;

(c) to make necessary by-laws, procedures, orders and instructions;

(d) to form Sub-Commissions of the Multiparty Democracy General Elections Commission;

(e) to appoint staff and set up administrative offices for the Multiparty Democracy General Elections Commission and its Sub-Commissions;

(f) to make necessary arrangements for holding free and fair multiparty general elections; to perform necessary functions; to seek and obtain necessary assistance.

Chapter IV - Miscellaneous

5. The expenses of the Multiparty Democracy General Elections Commission and its Sub-Commissions are the expenditure for holding the general elections shall be borne by the State.

6. The Pyithu Hluttaw and People's Councils Elections Commission Law (1976 Pyithu Hluttaw Law No. 5) is hereby repealed.

Sd. General Saw Maung, Chairman

State Law and Order Restoration (WPD 9/24)

Council

National League for Democracy

Sept. 24: Opposition leaders U Aung Gyi, Daw Aung San Su Kyi, and Thura U Tin Oo issued a press release announcing the formation of the National Democratic United League (Ah-myo-tha Di-mo-cray-si Nyi-nyut-yay Ahphwe), with the aim of "establishing a genuine democratic government." It called for cooperation with other democratic elements "in the shortest possible time." (WPD 9/25)

Sept. 28: The National League for Democracy (Ah-myo-tha Di-mo-cray-si Ahphwe Choak) was formed on Sept. 27, with offices at No. 54/56, University Avenue, Rangoon. Officers are:

Chairman: U Aung Gyi

Vice Chairman: U Tin Oo

General Secretary: Daw Aung San Su Kyi. (WPD 9/29)

BSPP Renamed National Unity

Sept. 27: The Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) has been officially renamed the National Unity Party (Taing-yin-tha Nyi-nyut-yay Party), effective Sept. 24. (WPD 9/27)

Sept. 30: The National Unity Party Party Organizing Central Committee was formed Sept. 29, as follows:

Chairman: U Tha Kyaw

General Secretary: U Tun Yi

Joint General Secretary: U Than Tin

Central Executive Committee members: U Chit Hlaing; U Hla Tun; U Khin Maung Gyi; U Htwe Han; U Thein Ngwe; U Aung Thein; U Nyein Maung; U Ba Thaw; U Van Kulh; U Myint Lwin; U Kyaw Khin Win; and U M Sin Sar. (WPD 9/30)

Democracy Party Formed

Sept. 27: The Democracy Party was formed on Sept. 20 at No. 4, Campbell Road, Bahan Township. Officers are:

Patron: Bohmu Aung (member of 30 comrades)

Chairman: U Thu Wai

Vice Chairman: U Khun Ye Naung

Secretary: U Thein Lwin

Joint Secretary: U Win Maung

Treasurer: U Tin Myint

Organizer: U Kun Zaw
Information & Foreign Relations: U Win Naing
Trade/Commerce: U Chit Myaing
Central Committee members: U Maung Maung Aye; U Tin Win (Sagaing);
U Maung Maung San; U Thaung; U Maung Maung Aye (Hlaing/ Advocate); U
Khin Maung Maung; U Tin Shwe. (WPD 9/28)
DISTURBANCES AND PUBLIC ORDER

Demonstrations in Rangoon

Aug. 31: "Employees of mills, factories, work establishments, corporations and boards, faculty members and students of university and colleges, teachers and students from various townships and the working people staged demonstrations peacefully...." Speeches were made in front of the Rangoon General Hospital, on Creek Street, in front of the US Embassy, in front of the western staircase of the Sule Pagoda and elsewhere in downtown Rangoon. [photos]

Faculty members and employees of the Institutes of Medicine 1 and 2 and the Institute of Dental Medicine "surrendered their Party membership cards." Thameggas (unions) have been formed by the Institute of Dental Medicine students, the Burma seamen's organization, and the Burma port workers.

Foreign Ministry workers issued an announcement demanding (1) immediate formation of an interim government; (2) enforcement of law and order in the whole country as soon as possible; and (3) holding immediate fair and just general elections under the multi-party democratic system.

Students from high and middle schools in North Okkalapa marched to and laid wreaths at the obelisk in No. 2 ward commemorating those who fell in the "struggle for democracy," where members of the sangha also recited metta sutas. North Okkalapa students also formed a thamegga at the No. 3 Middle School in Tatalingyeik Ward on Aug. 30.

An open letter to the Chairman of the Council of State sent Aug. 23 by 15 former patriotic military commanders, and the announcement by 85 former senior military commanders issued Aug. 30 supporting the open letter, were distributed in Rangoon on Aug. 31.

A temporary coordination committee of newspaper workers met on Aug. 31, including all newspapers, the News Agency Burma (Internal & External) and Myawaddy Press, and called for all public-owned newspapers and periodicals to support "the just struggle of the people in demanding 'democracy'; to continue to demand freedom of press and the rights of the workers," and to support the demands of the Myawaddy Press workers and join with workers of the Myanma Athin [Burma Broadcasting Service] and Television programme in "the just struggles." (WPD 9/1)

Sept. 1: "General Strike" demonstrations to demand "democracy" were held in Rangoon, with students, workers, and personnel gathering at their respective rally points, and marching along Maha Bandoola Street, Anawrahta Street, Bogyoke Aung San Street, Merchant Street, and Sule Pagoda Road, while crowds on either side "clapped their hands and cheered them." Students and teachers in schools, and various boards, corporations, and departments at some Ministries, formed thameggas (unions). On Aug. 31, a Burma-Muslim central thabeik (strike) committee was formed.

Various announcements were issued. Workers of the Petrochemical Industries Corporation said they would resume work so long as fuel oil would "directly reach the working people." Statements were issued by personnel of the Customs Department and the Meteorology and Hydrology Department. (WPD 9/2)

Sept. 3: Peaceful demonstrations continued, including students from Rangoon Institute of Technology and the Institute of Medicine 1, engineers of the Burma Engineers Association, workers from the Ministry of Mines, the Rangoon Zoo, and students from Thaketa, Dawbon, and Hlaing Townships. Speeches called for an interim government and democracy.

Statements were issued by the Department Stores Corporation Ah-lok-

tha-mar tha-megga (ya-yi) [workers union], Certified Public Accountants Association, Tatkatho bwe-ya kyaung-tha-haung-myar-aphwe, Institute of Foreign Languages Students Union, Thingangyun Township Teachers Union, and Myanma Naing-ngan Tay-gi-ta pyinnya-shin tha-megga (ya-yi).

An editorial entitled "Normalcy for all," said "Rangoon witnessed hundreds of thousands of demonstrators marching peacefully in procession Thursday [Sept. 1]." Buses were running normally and markets busy. Departments were alive with employees. "In short there was a change of atmosphere in which people could move about peacefully." There were still problems of high fares on private lines, and "conspicuous signs of makeshift barricades set up by people... throughout Rangoon. When night fell streets were deserted with residents taking turns for guard duty." Thanks to aid from the Sangha, "security was ensured to a certain extent in many areas." Peace is essential. (WPD & editorial, 9/4)

Other groups participating in the Sept. 3 demonstrations were staff from the Burma Railways Corporation, Myanma Gems Corporation, the Petroleum Products Supply Corporation, and Veterinary Surgeons in Burma, and representatives of the National Democratic United Vanguard, the All-Burma Youths Union (Shwegyopyu Youths), and the Burma National Unity Central Committee.

The Statement of the Department Stores Corporation Workers Union (provisional) condemned the oppression of "26 years of the one-party dictatorship system." Thus the Union was formed Sept. 2. "The... centralized economic system practised in the country during 26 years and the appointment of people without experience in economic matters to responsible posts in the various corporations and departments was detrimental to everybody." Exports dropped, foreign exchange reserves dwindled, unnecessary luxuries were imported and non-profitable projects implemented, foreign debts rose to US\$ 3,800 million. The Union calls for a multi-party system and an interim government. (Guardian 9/4)

Sept. 4: Peaceful demonstrations continued, starting at Rangoon General Hospital, with many marchers bringing water bottles because of rumors that water was being poisoned. Mass rallies were held in front of the American Embassy, on the corners of 33rd and Anawrahta Streets, 23rd and Anawrahta Streets, and Masjid Road in Tamwe Township, at the traffic lights near the Mingala Taungnyunt Senior High School No. 1, the Ramanya Grounds in Tamwe Township, at Laydaungkan Road near the Zawana Ward, in the Kyaikkasan Pagoda compound, at the Hsa/Kha Ward and Ward No. 16 in Thingangyun Township, in the Tatalingyeik Ward in North Okkalapa Township, and elsewhere.

Statements were issued by the Young Men's Buddhist Association in Rangoon Executive Committee (urging continued efforts by Sangha, students, and elders to restore peace); the Rangoon Bar Association Executive Committee (Dr. Maung Maung has wrongly rejected the demands of the people for an interim government on Constitutional grounds; but the people are "the original owners of the sovereignty of the State"); the Myanma Naing-ngan pyi-dwin nyein-chan-yay aphwe (internal peace as desired by the late Sayagyi Thakin Ko Daw Hmaing); staff of the Basic Education Department (Sept. 1; multi-party democracy and interim government); Myanma Naing-ngan in-gin-nier-hnit pi-thu-ha athin (ya-yi) (Burma Engineers and Architects Association (provisional)) (unity among students and people; measures for "destroying destructive elements"; will join with students in rebuilding Students Union building); Amyotha lut-myauk-yay-hnit di-mo-cratia tat-u (fight for peace, democracy and justice); Myanma Naing-ngan-lon saing-ya parti-sone di-mo-cray-si tike-pwe-win shay-may-myar com-mi-ti; Thwa-bet-saing-ya say-tatkatho kyaung-thar tha-megga (Sept. 3; demands and students and people are identical); Myanma Naing-ngan-lon saing-ya kyaung-thar-myar di-mo-cray-si hlok-shar-yay aphwe; Kyaung-thar-myar hlok-shar-hmu kyee-kyat-yay com-mi-ti; Kyaung-htar tha-megga win-haung myar and teachers of the Institute of Economics; Si-pwa-yay tatkatho kyaung-thar-myar tha-

megga phyt-myauk-yay aphwe (Institute of Economics Students Union) (people are destitute after following 26 years of BSPP laws, hence "the present strike was initiated and a revolution is being waged"); Thakins; Thakinmagyi-myar; Di-mo-cray-si-lut-myauk-yay pyithu mya chit tat-u; the Defence Services Academy; and the 'Ain-shin-ma-myar ah-thin ah-pwe, Yangon (Housewives Association, Rangoon) (supports multi-party democracy and interim government, and will march on Sept. 5). (WPD and Guardian 9/5)

Eight police trainees met with students and reporters to express their desire not to confront the public. They said they and 300 others were being formed into the Peoples' Police Force Special Hardcore Battalion No. 8, to join the other seven, and were told they would receive training with M-16 rifles and "must have the courage to shoot." Two thirds of the group have deserted the center. (Guardian 9/5; WPD 9/6)

Sept. 5: Peaceful demonstrations continued in Rangoon, including workers from Ale-shwegon-daing and Hlaing-yeiktha wards of Bahan Township, highschool and middleschool students, the Rangoon Bar Association, students from the Yangon Tekkatho Kyaung-tha-mya Thamegga [Rangoon University Students Union] and Institute of Economics, students from Taikkyi Township, workers of the News and Periodicals Corporation and various newspapers, the News Agency Burma [NAB] (internal and external), the Myawaddy Press, workers of the Jute Industries Corporation, Ports Corporation, Ministry of Industry 1, the Central Co-operative Society and other cooperatives, and the Housewives Association. [photos] (WPD 9/6)

Sept. 5: A ceremony to honour students beaten to death or arrested in March was held at the Inya Lake Bund on Sept. 4. Wreaths were floated on two rafts in the Lake. Speeches were made by former Prime Minister U Nu, Bo Yan Naing, retired General Thura U Tin Oo, U Vum Ko Hau, U Aung Gyi, U Thawka, U Aung Than Tin, Lawyer U Zaw Myo Win, and Dr. Aung Khin Sint. (WPD 9/6)

Sept. 5: The staff of the Burma Broadcasting Service and Burma Television (Myanma Athan and Yoke-myin than-kyar) issued a statement saying that they will not resume work until officers and staff "temporarily suspended" Sept. 5 for taking part in demonstrations, including the Additional Director (Broadcasting) and announcers, are reinstated. The suspensions are contrary to Dr. Maung Maung's statement of Sept. 1 that action would not be taken against demonstrators. // Sept. 7: The staff said at a press conference that they rejected the "clarification" that those suspended were only given rest at full pay, because they had been barred from the studios. 150 people attended the press conference. The spokesman said a demonstrator was called before the Director-General, but met with Deputy Commander Col. Hla Shwe who condemned democratic movements, and placed a pistol on the table saying "I have this. You can make complaints where you want." (WPD 9/8)

Sept. 5: Personnel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement on Sept. 5 resigning from the Burma Socialist Programme Party, "in order to enable us to perform our duties sincerely and conscientiously without regard to any party or individual." They "pledged to perform the duties entrusted by the legal government elected through free and fair elections under a multi-party system." (WPD 9/6)

Sept. 5: Numerous other organizations issued statements endorsing democracy, including the Yangon Tatatho bwe-lun kyaung thar Kaung-thu myar tha-megga; the Department of Labour Wun-dan-myar tha-megga (ya-yi) [provisional staff union]; Burma Airways Wun-dan-myar tha-megga (ya-yi); Burma-Muslim Fine Art Group, Tha-ma wa-ya-ma athin wun-dan-myar tha-megga (ya-yi), and students, teachers and staff of the Institute of Foreign Languages.

Further statements were issued by the Kyan-mar-yay wun-dan-myar tha-megga (ya-yi), new general hospital, central women's hospital kyan-mar-yay wun-dan-myar tha-megga (ya-yi) and Lanmadaw Township Sar-pay lok-tha-aphwe.

Ethnic groups also issued statements. The Chin amyothar nyein-

chan yay democracy myat-noe-thu-myar aphwe expressed anxiety over current incidents and called for multi-party democracy and an interim government. The Rakhine Thahaya Association issued a statement congratulating the formation of the Bama naing-ngan-lon saing-ya kyaung-thar tha-megga-myar aphwe-gyoke (ya-yi), and called for multi-party democracy and an interim government.

The Yangon Tetkatho kyaung-thar-myar tha-megga [Rangoon University Students Union] opposed the influence of any political party or individual. The A-lok-thama tha-megga (ya-yi) [workers union] of the Department Stores Corporation on Sept. 3 said that: "While the working people are having to queue up to buy essential commodities, the privileged class get abundance of what they want from special shops and trade corporations." (WPD 9/6)

Sept. 5: The Rangoon Fire Brigade requested the public to cooperate in fighting fires. Firemen "will not abide by instruction, exhortation and threat of any one but will carry out the fire fighting work in accord with the projects laid down by the Fire Brigade." (WPD 9/6)

Sept. 6: Members of the Sangha are patrolling the Shwedagon Pagoda day and night, so devotees may pay homage to the pagoda in peace. (WPD 9/8)

Sept. 7: The Planning Department (Office of the Ministers) Service Personnel Union (Provisional) of the Ministry of Planning and Finance, issued a statement condemning the BSPP one-party dictatorship which had "made the country bankrupt socially and economically." The Party had exploited the people, and the Planning Department "had to draw up economic plan and compile reports to cheat the public, to satisfy one-party dictators." (WPD 9/8)

Sept. 8: Peaceful mass 'General Strike' demonstrations were staged in Rangoon by "thousands upon thousands" of workers, students and teachers, and people. Among demonstrators were members of the Sangha, members of religious organizations, members of the Tatmadaw (Navy) and People's Police Force, farmers from Twante Township, office staff of the BSPP and Council of State, literati, music and film artistes, etc. Workers from many State Corporations and Departments [listed] took part. So did the Myanma Naing-ngan thabin-pyinnya-the-myar tha-megga, Pachi-pabu-hnit-cartoon pyinnya-shin-myar tha-megga, Myanma Naing-ngan habya-saya-myar aphwe, Burma Educational Research Bureau, and student unions. A ceremony and wreath laying were held at the Immanuel Baptist Church near City Hall. [many photos] (WPD 9/9)

Sept. 8: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs A-lok-tha-mar Tha-megga (Ya-yi) [workers union (provisional)] announced that its employees will not work from Sept. 8-13. The Yahta di-mo-cra-si yashi-yay alothamar tha-megga issued Announcement 2/88 on Sept. 8, condemning action against Baho-Tha-megga (Ya-yi) President U Win Aung, and said railway workers who peacefully demonstrate should not be "threatened to work." (WPD 9/9)

Sept. 10: Mass demonstrations continued in peacefully in Rangoon. "Those who enthusiastically participated in the 'general strike' were" workers, employees of departments and corporations, students, members of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, and Air Force), Myanma Oil Corporation workers, police, railway police, Defence Industries employees, and nurses. Speeches demanded democracy and an interim government. [photos] (WPD 9/11)

Sept. 13: Peaceful mass demonstrations continued, and "thousands and thousands of people from various organizations marched chanting slogans for democracy and for formation of an interim government." Gathering at Rangoon General Hospital, they marched on Bogyoke Aung San and other downtown streets. Demonstrators included Tatmadawmen, hospital staff, students and workers. [photos]

100 demonstrators staged a hunger strike for an interim government at City Hall, under the banner of De-mo-cra-si Tat-paung-zu. 40 students staged a hunger strike in front of the Insein Township EPC Office.

Students held a wreath-laying ceremony at the Rangoon Institute of

Technology, under the sponsorship of the RIT Tha-megga [union], to honor students Maung Hpone Maw and Maung Soe Naing who fell in the 'struggle for democracy,' on March 13. 100,000 people, including students, doctors, nurses, lawyers, artistes and workers attended.

Calls for an interim government were issued by the Institute of Foreign Languages students (on Sept. 12), the Sit-tekkatho Kyaungtha-haung-myar, the North Okkalapa Township sarnezin tha-megga (ye-yi), the Association of Certified Public Accountants (Burma), and the alokthamar tha-megga (ya-yi) [workers unions] of the Planning and Finance Ministry and of the Irrigation Department head office. (WPD 9/14)

Sept. 14: Mass demonstrations continued peacefully, and more than 100,000 people from various organizations took part. [photos]

Demands for an interim government were issued by alokthamar tha-megga [workers unions] from the Trade Department, the Metal Industries Corporation of the Ministry of Industry 1, the Foreign Ministry (who have been demonstrating from Sept. 9-13), the petrochemical products transportation sector of the Petro-chemical Industries Corporation. Also from the wunhtanmyar tha-megga (yayi) [provisional staff unions] of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office and the Office of the Council of State. Also from the kyaungsiyon-myar wunhtanmyar tha-megga (Rangoon) (on Sept. 13.), the Kamayut Township sarnezin tha-megga (yayi) (on Sept. 13), the myanma naing-ngan taygita pinnyarshin-myar tha-megga (yayi) on Sept. 12), the kyaungtha-myar hloksharhum kyeekyatay com-mi-ti, and the Rangoon Institute of Technology kyaungtha tha-megga. Numerous other organizations issued unspecified announcements.

160 workers of the Ministry of Industry 1 staged a hunger strike in front of the Office of the Ministry of Industry 1, to demand an interim government. 100 family members of 87th Street, Kandawgalay West Ward, Mingala Taungnyunt, staged a hunger strike on Myanma Gondyi Road to demand democracy and an interim government. Persons holding a hunger strike at City Hall were given help by doctors from the Rangoon General Hospital. (WPD 9/15)

Sept. 15: Mass demonstrations continued peacefully, marching along Bogyoke Aung San, Anawrahta, Maha Bandoola, Merchant, and Theinbyu Streets. Many organizations [listed] took part. [photos]

Hunger strikes spread, with 160 people staging a 48-hour hunger strike at City Hall to demand an interim government. Many groups have been holding hunger strikes at City Hall since Sept. 11, including rahans, students, youths, and workers. There is pending a 24-hour hunger strike by members of the Kyanmayay wundanmya Ya-yi Tha-megga (Central), calling for an interim government, resignation of the present BSPP government, and rejection of the BSPP-formed election commission. Similar hunger strikes were held on the Rangoon-Insein Road near the Thamaing Textile Mill, in the Rangoon Institute of Technology compound, in front of the Tamwe Township People's Council office, in front of Mingala Taungnyunt High School No. 4, in front of the Rangoon General Hospital, in front of the Ministry of Industry 1 office, at Botataung High School No. 6, at the Inya Lake Bund, in front of the Aryan-khan-tazaung of the Kaba Aye Pagoda in Hlaing Township, and at the Hledan traffic light junction in Kamayut Township.

Demands for an interim government were made by the Union of Old Johnians (Temporary) (Burma) (on Sept. 14); the Agricultural Farm Produce Trade Corporation head office alokthamar tha-megga (yayi) [workers union]; the Myanma Niang-ngan yokshin tha-megga (yayi) (objecting to the showing of Burmese films and TV plays on Burmese Television until an interim government is formed); the Information and Broadcasting Department staff tha-megga (yayi) (members won't work until an interim government is formed); the Kachin National Democratic Association (Provisional), the Yangon Myo-lone Saing-ya Ban-paung-son A-lokthama Tha-megga (Ya-yi) (condemned Paragraph 3 of the Council of Ministers' Announcement No. 2/88, and said bank staff will continue demonstrations--all banks and branch banks are now temporarily closed); the Association of Traders and Owners of Small-

scale Industries; the Association of Certified Public Accountants (Burma); the Burma Five Star Shipping Corporation A-lokthama Thamegga; the Ceramics Industries Corporation Workers Union (provisional); the Say-tekkatho 2 saya-myar hnint wundanmyar thamegga ya-yi (The Institute of Medicine 2 Teachers and Staff Union (Provisional) (65 members, including Rector Dr. U Myo Thwe, have resigned from the BSPP).

Statements appealing for unity and discipline were issued by the Yangon myo-lon-saing-ya Rahanpyo-myar thamegga [Rangoon Yahanpyos Union League] and the Tekkatho bwe-ya kyaung-thar-haung-myar A-phwe [University Degree Holders and former Students Association]. They called for an immediate interim government, and expressed sadness at the plight of the people. They asked the people "to avoid over-hasty action and to use peaceful means of democracy." They asked the well-to-do to aid the people. [photo] (WPD & Guardian 9/16)

The Burmese Muslim Strike Center held a news conference to call on the four opposition leaders to form common front. The plea was made by Chairman Hajee Kyhaw Win Maung. [photo] (Guardian 9/16)

Sept. 16: Mass demonstrations continued, with many organizations [listed] taking part. 500 Rangoon Institute of Technology Students demonstrated along Bogyoke Aung San Road, Botataung Road, and Anawratha Street. [photos]

Hunger strikes continued. 550 rahans and students and workers staged a 48-hour hunger strike at City Hall, demanding unity among opposition leaders, genuine democracy, stepping down of ma-sa-la government, and formation of an interim government. 34 members of the Yin-kyay-mu ka-zat-ha-na wun-dan-myar thamegga and 18 members of the Sangha from Sanchaung Bagaya Kyaungtaik Rahan-pyo aphwe staged a 24 hour hunger strike in front of the office of the Drama Division. 150 teachers of the Myanma Naing-ngan-lon-saing-ya Achay-khan-pyinnya saya-sayama-myar thamegga staged a 24 hour hunger strike in the Rangoon General Hospital compound. 63 students from Kyauktada SHS (1) and 65 people including rahans and students staged a 72 hour hunger strike in the Rangoon General Hospital compound. Members of the Kyan-myar-yay wun-dan-myar ya-yi thamegga of the Health Department staged a 24 hour hunger strike in front of the Health Department office. 274 students and Sanghas from Yankin Township have started a 48 hour hunger strike on the lawn of Yankin SHS No. 1. Similar strikes were staged in front of North Okkalapa Hospital and at the obelisk in memory of fallen students. A group led by 6 amagan have begun a hunger strike which began on Sept. 15, to last until the BSPP government steps down.

Organizations continued to call for an interim government, including the Marine Administration Department wunhtanmyar thamegga (yayi) [staff union (provisional)]; the Myanma Agriculture Bank head office alokthamar thamegga (yayi) [workers union (provisional)]; and the Burma Dental Association.

There was a commotion at a ceremony sponsored by the Sanpya Phasa-ba-la Students Union near the Zoological Gardens, when a War Office loudspeaker ordered writer Gonhtoon U Thein Naing to stop talking or be shot at. The crowd protested, and grew from 1,000 to 2,000. Eleven trucks of soldiers arrived, but a confrontation was avoided. Excitement grew in Phasa-pa-la and Kandawgale wards, all streets were closed and the crowd grew. At 5:30 pm the crowd dispersed at the request of the Chairman of the All-Burma Federation of Students Unions (Provisional), Min Ko Naing.

In a ceremony near Inya Lake Road, where students were attacked and arrested by members of the lone-htain (security force) on March 16, 1988, the Tadaphyu bus stop where the incident occurred was renamed the Tadani bus stop. Ko Than Win, member of the Executive Committee of the Rangoon University Students' Union, spoke. (WPD & Guardian 9/17)

Sept. 17: "Mass demonstrations in crescendo" was the headline of an article describing Rangoon demonstrations, listing organizations taking part. [photos]

Hunger strikes continued. 470 teachers and students from the

Hlaing Township Achaykhan Pyinnya Kyaungtha Tha-megga staged a 24 hour hunger strike at the Hledan traffic lights in Kamayut Township. Similar strikes were staged at Rangoon General Hospital, City Hall, the Inya Lake Bund, in front of the Yankin High School No. 1 and elsewhere. [photo]

Various organizations rejected the Council of Ministers back-to-work order [Announcement 3/88 of Sept. 16], vowing to remain on strike until an interim government is formed, including the Pyithu Hluttaw Office Personnel Union (Provisional); the Paper and Chemical Industries Corporation Workers Union (Provisional); the Health Personnel (Laboratory) Union (Provisional); the Ear, Eye, Nose and Throat Hospital Health Personnel Union (Provisional); the Burma Airways Corporation Personnel Union; the Electric Power Corporation Alokthamar Ahphwe-gyok (yayi); and the Central Court Personnel Union. (WPD 9/18)

The Supervision Committee for Students Movement rejected the Council of State and Council of Ministers announcements of Sept. 16, since they did not meet the demand for an interim government. The Bar Council issued an opinion that participation of security and public services personnel in "the movement for holding of a free and fair election" is non-partisan and hence not in violation of civil service regulations. (WPD 9/18)

Disturbances in Rangoon

Aug. 31: Looters attempted to break into the No. 6 Plant of the Ahlone Cold Storage Factory but were foiled by security personnel. Five of them were caught by kin groups from three wards and handed over to the Aungzeya Monastery. A group of 30 looters broke into the warehouse of the Restaurant and Beverages Trade Corporation in Botataung Townships, and security forces had to fire on them. Five cases, containing 480 bottles of rum, were lost.

A group of released convicts tried to force their way into the Rangoon General Hospital to "finish off" Police Sergeant U Sein Win, whom they had attacked with dahs in Hlaing Township on Aug. 30. All but one were captured by the crowd and turned over to "members of the security unit and members of the Sangha." (WPD 9/1)

Sept. 1: 30 persons destroyed 10 public owned teak rafts in Thanatpin Creek on Aug. 31, causing Ky 1 million damage. (WPD 9/2)

Sept. 3: A crowd of 500 invaded the coffee products factory in Thaketa Township, despite pleas from 40 members of the Sangha and 100 students guarding the ward. When security forces were summoned, they had to fire, killing one and wounding two others. Machinery, coffee powder, and roofing were stolen. Security forces recovered 20 sheets of corrugated iron, a bag of coffee seeds, and 5 meter-boxes. (WPD 9/4)

Sept. 4: 200 persons entered the Canning Factory in Thaketa Township, joined by 50 in sampans, and looted machinery, scrap iron, cans, drums jute bags, diesel oil, scales and furniture to the value of Ky 600,000. 100 persons entered the warehouse of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries on the bank of Hlaing River near the Burma Pharmaceutical Industry on Sept. 3 and stole fish and prawn nets, ropes, paints, electric wires, and parts valued at Ky 800,000. 15 persons boarded the Circular Route Train No. (Ta-5) at Pa-ywet-seik-kon station and robbed a passenger of his wristwatch and handbag. 30 persons boarded the Prome-Rangoon No. 64 Down Train and stole baskets of gourds, custard apples, and charcoal; they also robbed the guard and passengers of wristwatches. (WPD 9/5)

Sept. 5: On Sept. 4 500 looters invaded the Plywood Factory and the Kyi Kyi Biscuit Factory in Ward No. 14, South Okkalapa, and started looting and destruction. 14 students and Sangha members from the township security group who protested were taken hostage, beaten up, their hands smashed, and some of them murdered. The looters went on to the Pinnya-the tatyin a--paing (1), taking the hostages, while the crowd demanding their release grew to 1,000. The fight continued for hours. 36 looters were captured and 8 "captured dead." Three Sangha members and 2 students are missing, and eight were wounded;

two of them are in-patients at Rangoon General Hospital. (WPD 9/6)

Sept. 7: "Tatmadaw and People's Police Force members will give assistance to the public if there are incidents of looting and disturbances taking place at the State-owned godowns, factories, mills and offices by exploiting demonstratings [sic] and those who live in the following townships can ring the Phone numbers below." [phone numbers provided for most Rangoon townships]. Army and Police "out of the duty to protect public properties will shoot at looters who breach Penal Code." (WPD 9/8)

Sept. 8: Between Aug. 1 and Sept. 7, public properties were looted of more than Ky 260 million of construction materials, rice, oil, machinery oil, medicine, textiles, and soap. Acts of violence and bullying became worse; on Sept. 6-7 there were 38 incidents of looting in the Rangoon area. Five looters were killed, six injured, and 88 seized. (WPD 9/8)

Sept. 8: Members of the Sangha and students allegedly caught one Maung Hla Kyaing, who was poisoning drinking water pots near the Central Women's Hospital in Ahlone Township. His accomplices Maung Win Naing, Hla Maung, Myat Myat Tin and Ah Sin were arrested. Ah Sin showed police water pots that had been poisoned in Kemmendine and Ahlone Townships, and said an unidentified man had paid them Ky 150 each for the job. "Of the arrested persons three were killed by the working people." (WPD 9/9)

Sept. 15: One looter was killed by Burma Navy security units and three arrested in an attempt by 150 "violent elements" late Sept. 14 to loot the machinery godown of the Agricultural and Trade Produce Corporation near the No. 6 warehouse in Botataung Township. Police fired four shots, killing one looter, and another was arrested, in an attempt to loot the Health Assistant Training Office near the Danyingon Golf Course. (WPD 9/16)

Sept. 17: Troops stationed at the Ministry of Trade on Strand road reportedly fired on peaceful demonstrators. "A column of students of the Myanma Naing-ngan-lon-saing-ya kyaung-thar-myar si-yon-yay aphwe-chok was marching along Merchant Street when cartridge-belts were shown to them by troops...and argument followed.... It was reported two shots were fired into air and this was followed by four more shots. One of the spectators was wounded...."

The student column, and ward security units, arrived at the Ministry of Trade and demanded that the shooters surrender. U Aung Gyi and U Tin Oo arrived and appealed to the crowd to disperse; three gun shots were fired from the office, wounding one student. Sangha members, students, and security units tried unsuccessfully to pacify the crowd, which damaged three cars ([Mazda] 929 nya 1055; Army Truck Star 7303 (nange); and B-600 car nagy 2797). When the crowd tried to enter the office, 24 soldiers, including Capt. Khin Maung Cho, surrendered, with weapons including seven launcher rockets and 20 grenades. The surrendered soldiers are being protected by members of the Sangha, military who were taking part in peaceful demonstration, and ward security units. Later, an Army Major and another officer "joined hands with the Rahanpyo and students." [photos of U Tin Oo appealing for calm, and of weapons surrendered by the soldiers] (WPD 9/18)

Sept. 22: 500 "unsavoury elements" attacked the Thongwa Township [Rangoon] police station, stealing 66 weapons and 465 rounds of ammunition, while the police were clearing a strike camp at Thongwa. All but two of the weapons have been recovered. (WPD 9/23).

Sept. 23: Looters broke into the No. 30/31 godowns at Keighley jetty on Sept. 22, and security units killed 8 and wounded 3 of them. (WPD 9/24)

Sept. 24: 100 persons broke open warehouse 51(A) of the Five Star Shipping Corporation; security units killed 7 of them. 1,000 "unsavoury elements" tried to loot a fish-breeding pond in Twante; security units killed 7 of them. 20 "rowdy elements" tried to steal construction materials from Kyandaw Cemetery; security units killed 5 of them. (WPD 9/25)

Sept. 25: 80 "unsavoury elements" looted Goodliffe filling

station No. 30; security units wounded one. They stole 700 gallons of petrol, etc., leaving only 50 gallons at the station. 15 persons looted the Kemmendine Lead Godown; security units killed three of them. 1,000 persons looted Kanna-ahle ward, Insein Township; security units killed two and wounded four. Looters tried to steal roofing from the Cigarette Factory No. 3 in Myenigon Street, Ward 6, Hlaing Township; security units arrested 16, and seized 30 sheets of roofing. (WPD 9/26)

Detainees Released

Aug. 31: The Rangoon Division Judges Committee released on their own personal assurances 19 convicts (sentenced to under one year) and 127 under-trial prisoners from police lockups in 13 Rangoon townships. Similarly, 181 convicts and 613 under-trial prisoners were released from Insein jail. 152 convicts and 257 under-trial prisoners were released from Mandalay Jail. On Aug. 30, 59 convicts sentenced to a year or less were released from Nyaung-U Jail, and 39 from Henzada jail. The Hmankin Kyaung Sayadaw and Sangha members from Thayettaw Kyaungtaik helped 20 women released from Insein Jail, and their five children born there, to return home on Aug. 30 to Magwe, Minbu, Yenangyaung, Salin, Sagu, Mandalay, and Nyanglebin. (WPD 9/1)

Sept. 1: 57 prisoners were released from Insein Jail. (WPD 9/2)

Sept. 3: 157 convicts and 330 under-trial prisoners were released from Mandalay jail. (WPD 9/4)

Sept. 4: 87 convicts and 18 under-trial prisoners were released from Mandalay jail. (WPD 9/5)

Sept. 24: 20 students, including a girl, taken into custody when the Mandalay GTI compound strike camp "folded", were released. (WPD 9/25)

Sept. 27: Many students detained during the recent incidents were released, excluding leaders who had incited to crime. Numbers were: Kachin (7); Kayah (10); Tenasserim (0); Pegu (6); Magwe (20); Mandalay (16); Mon (13); Rakhine (0); Rangoon (20); Shan (43); and Irrawaddy (5). No students had been detained in Sagain, Karen, or Chin States/Divisions. More students will be released. (WPD 9/28)

Sept. 29: More students were released on Sept. 27 from: Mandalay (16), Magwe (7), Pakokku (2), Yenangyaung (11), Chauk (2), and Myitkyina (13). (WPD 9/30)

Demonstrations outside Rangoon

Aug. 30: A strike camp was opened on Aug. 9, in Hmawbi Township [Rangoon Division], and has been holding peaceful demonstrations. A Provisional Control Committee, of elders, Sangha, civil servants, war veterans, and police, are "attending to security and administrative matters in the township." (Guardian 9/4)

Aug. 31: Demonstrations have taken place in Nattalin [Pegu Division] since Aug. 9, and have grown to 45,000. Youths and elders from Myoma, Thazi, Ywama and Zigongale wards are carrying out security duties. (Guardian 9/5)

Sept. 2: 200,000 demonstrators met at the Thehta Manaung Pagoda compound in Pa-an [Karen State] to hear talks by the Sangha, students, and civil servants. 50,000 marched in procession, including teachers, workers, students, and departmental personnel. [photo] (Guardian 9/5)

Sept. 11: Wreaths were laid on Sept. 11 in front of the Bogyoke Aung San bronze statue in Pyinmana, attended by "sanghas from the Masoe-yein kyaungtaik Peace Column of Mandalay, Nagana sanghas of Pyinmana, personnel from religious organizations, [government] departments, PPF [People's Police Force], medical association, advocates association, teachers union and students union." Sayadaw U Nandi Thiri from the Peace Column, Dr. Min Kyaw from the Medical Association, Ko Sein Shwe from the Pyinmana District Students Union, and former University Students Union chairman Ko Aung Kyi delivered talks on democracy and democratic rights. (Guardian 9/16)

Sept. 12: Peaceful mass demonstrations continued in Mandalay. (WPD 9/14)

Sept. 14: Some members of the Mandalay Division People's Council Executive Committee, and Mandalay Division Organs of Power have resigned, beginning Sept. 13. They are: Division People's Council Chairman U Nyo Win; Secretary U Ba Tu; Executive Committee members U Kyi Lwin, U Sein Win and U Nyunt Tin; Division Committee of Judges Chairman U Thein Hlaing and members U Kyi and U Hla Aung; and Division Committee of Inspectors Chairman U Than Nyunt. They went to the Abbot Committee (Sangha Samaggi) and "announced their resignation and supplicated to ensure the security of their lives and property."

[In a statement, they said that the BSPP was planning to use disturbances and violence to ensure its victory in any elections, and would try at the tribunal BSPP personnel who failed of election. The government "was trying to crush the people's struggle for attainment of democracy by using the 'Phyat-lay-phyat' method and services personnel having not paid their salaries until now in Mandalay was the hard proof of that. It said all the rations were taken away from the Tatmadaw and distributed among Party members who were enjoying unfair privileges and exploiting the people. They have appropriated land and building under the names of their children, it said." (Guardian 9/17)]

115 students staged a 24 hour hunger strike, under the sponsorship of the Toungoo University College and Institute Students Union, on Bo Po Kun Street near Township Party Unit, demanding that BSPP party members in the Army should resign, that the present government should resign, and an interim government be formed. (Guardian 9/16)

Sept. 15: Letpadan Township Party organizations and People's Councils were dissolved, effective Sept. 12, announced People's Council Chairman Lt. Col. Thein Han and Party Unit Committee Chairman U Tin Nyunt. A message was sent to the Students' Union in honor of the 50 "hard-cord student-members" who went on a 36 hour hunger strike. The Township Democracy Front issued a statement to the effect that "the safety and property of all those who resigned from the Party and People's Council organizations is guaranteed." (Guardian 9/17)

Sept. 16: 200 students in Myingyan staged a hunger strike. U Sein Maung, who had returned from Rangoon after attending the BSPP Party Congress, and Township Party Unit Committee member U Hla Aung resigned their [BSPP] party membership and duties, "announcing they would join the people." (Guardian 9/17)

Disturbances Outside Rangoon

Sept. 22: 50 "unsavoury elements" on the night of Sept. 21 attacked the Pyinmana Police Station. Police fired, killing three.

In Mandalay, a group fired on the No. 76 Burma Regiment, using carbine and Sten guns. Security forces killed one of them. Later a "suspicious looking person" was shot dead when he rushed a security unit vehicle at the junction of 35th and 81st Streets. A group tried to invade the golf course at the foot of Mandalay Hill, and the Institute of Indigenous Medicine, by driving a herd of 50 buffaloes into the security unit camp. Five buffaloes were killed.

In Moulmein [Mon], a group fired at the old office of the Kyaikphane Ward People's Council. (WPD 9/23)

Sept. 23: In Mandalay "unsavoury elements" fired at the railway station and No. 6 police station on Sept. 22, but were repelled. In Thabeikkyin Township [Mandalay], five persons in robes from the Galonni tha-beik ahpwe tried to seize a gun from the home of U Kyaw Shein, Chaung-gyee village; villagers killed one and wounded two of them, and seized weapons.

In Monywa [Sagaing] 50 rounds were fired from homemade guns at the microwave office, township office, and No. 1 highschool; security forces wounded two.

In Mergui [Tenasserim] security forces seized daggers from two suspicious elements on Sept. 21. (WPD 9/24)

Sept. 24: Two persons attacked the railway security unit in Shwedah village, Yamethin Township [Mandalay], and one was killed by security forces. 40 "destructive elements" looted the No. 337 oil well area in Mann Oil Field; four looters were killed. "Unsavory elements" attacked a security unit with jinglees and zawi (nuts) on 26th Street between 86th and 87th Streets, Mandalay. The security unit shot 7 of them.

In Thanbyuzayat [Mon], U Baydar, "ringleader of the unsavory elements" at the Kyaikthok Pagoda, Moulmein, was arrested on Sept. 22, wearing a [monk's] robe and carrying Ky 15,000; he and his followers Hla Kyi and Kyaw Soe went to Hnitayin village in Ye Township by train on Sept. 18 to try unsuccessfully to contact insurgents.

In An Township [Rakhine], 500 "unsavory elements" attacked the Tattaung village police station on Sept. 21. The police had to flee to Kyaukpyu, after which the "elements" demanded Ky 40,000 from the village. // Sept. 27: Chased by troops, ringleaders Khin Aung and Nyi Pu Che were arrested on Sept. 25, and 30 stolen weapons recovered. The next day, troops killed 9 of them. (WPD 9/29)

In Oktwin [Pegu] two ex-convicts were arrested with weapons on Sept. 23, and confessed to being part of a gang of six planning to rob in Chauk and Gwaygyo village. (WPD 9/25)

Sept. 25: 20 looters raided the Myanma Oil Corporation office in Lashio [Shan] on Sept. 24, and security units killed one. 200 persons attacked the Kyaung-zu police station, Danubyu Township, Irrawaddy Division on Sept. 21; one was killed. Security units in The-ka-nok village, Maubin Township [Irrawaddy] were attacked; they killed two attackers and seized 3 hand-made guns. (WPD 9/26)

Strike Camps Disbanded

Sept. 22: The Mandalay University strike camp was raided Sept. 21, and 8 people arrested. The Kuthinayone Galonni and Phayagyi (45) ta [sic] strike camps were raided and "newspaper propagating falsehood and diaries were seized." The Lepaw strike camp at Yenangyaung was raided on Sept. 20, and a typewriter, copying machine, and three car-loads of documents were seized. (WPD 9/23)

Sept. 23: Strike camps have "totally folded", beginning Sept. 19, at Insein High School No. 1; Rangoon Institute of Technology (Gyogon); Withakha Tazaung; Kaba Aye Pagoda (Mayangon); Kyakwaing Pagoda, North Okkalapa Highschool No. 1, Middle School No. 7, and People's Hospital; Pan-chan-gon monastery (Mingaladon); Mingaladon Middle School No. 1; Dhammayon of Mingaladon market; [Rangoon] City Hall; Health Department (Theinbyu Street); Rangoon General Hospital; Rangoon University (Hlaing Campus); in front of the American Embassy; Thingangyun High Schools Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4; Thuwunna High School No. 5; Dawbon Unit Office and Co-operative Department; Kyaik-de-yon Pagoda (Syriam). In Sagaing Division, all strike camps except Singu have folded. In Magwe Division, all have folded except Htilin, Pauk, Saw, Myaing, and Yezagyo. In Chin State all have folded. In Mandalay Division all have folded except "some places in the town." (WPD 9/24)

Sept. 24: The Eindawgyi strike camp in Mandalay was raided, 50 "unsavory elements" were arrested and 3 TE-11 vehicles seized. (WPD 9/25)

Weapons Seizures

Sept. 22: A search of U Lu Maw's godown in Yenangyaung [Magwe] on Sept. 20 seized 4 home-made mortars, and 3 home-made hand grenades. Security units raided the Co-operative Shop of Ward No. 5, Hlaing Township [Rangoon], on Sept. 21 and seized 2 Sten guns, 1 Bren gun, 3 rifles and an M-16. A security unit recovered 8 weapons and ammunition that had been stolen from the Kamayut [Rangoon] police station. (WPD 9/23)

Sept. 24: Sangha members handed over to the Kamayut Police Station a revolver recovered from looters. In North Okkalapa, security units seized 11 walkie-talkie sets, looted from the

Department of Geological Survey and Mineral Exploration. (WPD 9/25)

Sept. 26: In Bassein on Sept. 23, 485 jinglees were turned in to security units on Sept. 23; also a hand-made gun and ammunition in Nga-gyi Ga-yet village, Maubin Township [Irrawaddy]. A rifle was handed in at Dalla [Rangoon]. Hand grenades and a rifle were turned in in Moulmein [Mon] on Sept. 24. (WPD 9/27)

Student Flight to Insurgents

Sept. 25: Seven persons trying to go underground on Sept. 20 were seized by elders of Naw Pado village, Pa-an Township [Karen], including a mid-wife and her brother, and five young students. The adults are being prosecuted; the students sent home. (WPD 9/26)

Sept. 26: Acting Education Minister Dr. U Pe Thein appealed to parents to keep students "from following the wrong path."

Student leader Kyaw Kyaw Oo (aged 23) of Moulmein Ngwedaung strike camp and four others on Sept. 22 fled to Ye, and on Sept. 23 to Kyaungywa to go underground. They and their 7 guides were fired on by KNU insurgents, and one student killed and another missing; the others are being cared for by the Army. (WPD 9/27)

Sept. 27: Vice Chief of Staff (Army) Lt. Gen. Than Shwe issued a Declaration on Sept. 26 [full text]:

We have come to know that, there are students who, after staging peaceful demonstrations for realization of the rights of true democracy, absconded in the city and some of them are planning to join the insurgent groups. Tatmadaw do not bear any grudge and have no intention at all to cause trouble towards the youthful students except those who have committed crime. Thus, parents and teachers are urged to kindly stop the occurrence of attempts to be made by the students to join the insurgents. (WPD 9/28)

Sept. 27: Parents of strike leaders in Kya-in-Seikkyi Township [Karen] who had forced students to abscond when the camp folded on Sept. 19, forced them to recall the students; 22 returned on Sept. 22, and the others are being traced.

4 students were caught on Sept. 25 when they tried to contact a Mon insurgent group near Moulmein; their confession led to the arrest of two others. 15 of 28 students, workers, and locals who had absconded to Baya-thu-yi from Bokeyyin on Sept. 19 returned Sept. 22; the other 13 will return soon. 30 out of 34 students demonstrators who absconded from Zeyawaddy, Pyu Township [Pegu] on Sept. 20 returned. (WPD 9/28)

Sept. 28: Two students from Mandalay were detained when it was learned that they and 8 others had had dealings with SSA insurgent Vice Chairman Col. Hsay Htin at Pongpon on Sept. 16. 13 high and middle school students returned home to Rangoon after fleeing to Thaton, where they were found by the Army. 4 university students were detained in Kawkareik on Sept. 24, and have been returned home. 24 students who fled to Kyondo, mostly from Martaban, were detained on Sept. 26 and have been returned home. (WPD 9/29)

Sept. 29: 17 university students from Martaban, who had absconded to Kyondo Village, were returned home. (WPD 9/30)

Students Join Insurgents

400 students, including Rangoon University student leader Maung Maung Kyaw have joined the KNU insurgents; 20 the Mon insurgents; 40 the Kachin insurgents; 80 the Karenni insurgents; 30 the Shan insurgents; 200 the Pa-O (White) insurgents; and 20 the Rakhine insurgents. As of Sept. 27, a total of 800 students have joined insurgent groups. (WPD 9/30)

Casualties in Coup

Sept. 27: Statistics of casualties caused by security units in the whole country between September 18-26 are as follows:

Killed: 342 (339 male, 3 female)

Injured: 219 (212 male, 7 female)

Arrested: 1,107 (1,102 male, 5 female) (WPD 9/28)

DIPLOMATIC

Japanese Statement

Sept. 6: Japanese Ambassador Hiroshi Ohtaka on Sept. 4 to Foreign Minister U Saw Hlaing the Japanese position on the Burmese situation as follows:

1. The political situation in Burma is still very fluid and unstable, and economic conditions have been rapidly deteriorating.

2. As students and citizens prepare to stage demonstrations on a massive scale with the approach of 12th September, the tension seems to be mounting. The Government of Japan is closely following the developments in Burma with great concern.

3. The Government of Japan earnestly hopes that the Government of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma will make every effort to solve the present political unrest peacefully by exercising restraint and thus avoiding further bloodshed.

The Japanese Ambassador had given an earlier message on August 14 and 16. (WPD 9/6)

Czech Message

Sept. 6: Message [text printed] of message of congratulations from Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak to President Dr. U Maung Maung, "on the occasion of your election as President of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma." (WPD 9/6) // Sept. 13: Press Statement from Czech Charg, d'Affaires a.i. Robert Nerpas, noting that the message "was sent as a matter of courtesy," and that the Czech Embassy could not understand why it (and not other similar messages) were published, and why it was released to the press "at a very late date when the general situation for the Burmese people was extremely critical. The Czechoslovak people has full understanding of and high regard for the Burmese people's sovereign rights and aspirations at this particular time in the country's history." (WPD 9/14)

U.S. Resolution on Burma

Sept. 8: The American Embassy released the following statement concerning a Resolution by the U.S. House of Representatives [full text]:

The US House of Representatives on September 7 passed a resolution which expresses strong support for the restoration of Democracy in Burma. It states the willingness of the House to consider, in the context of a genuinely democratic government, proposals designed to assist Burma's economic recovery. The Resolution, which was introduced by Rep. Stephen Solarz, a recent visitor to Rangoon, also condemns the killing of unarmed demonstrators and pays tribute to the Burmese people for their courage and commitment to democracy.

The House Resolution is similar to a Resolution passed by the US Senate on August 11, 1988, calling on the President and other US officials to encourage the restoration of democracy in Burma.

Such Resolutions, while they do not have the force of law, are used by the House and Senate in the US to express the views of those bodies on matters of significant concern. In this instance, they are closely consistent with official US views of the situation in Burma. These views have been expressed in a series of statements from the Department of State deploring the use of lethal force against unarmed demonstrators and supporting the cause of democracy.

Now therefore be it resolved, the House:

1. Pays tribute to the Burmese people for their courage and commitment in supporting the restoration of democratic government in their country;

2. Condemns the killing of unarmed demonstrators by the Burmese armed forces and urges the Government of Burma to refrain from army further use of force against those of its citizens engaged in peaceful protest;

3. Expresses its strong support for the restoration of democracy in Burma and, to that end, urges the establishment of a transitional

body, consisting of Burmese citizens who are unquestionably committed to democracy and who have the confidence of the Burmese people, to organize the holding of multi-party elections and otherwise facilitate the establishment of a genuinely democratic government;

4. Urges appropriate third parties to favorably consider requests to facilitate the departure of present or prior Burmese government officials as a means of strengthening the prospects for a peaceful settlement;

5. States its willingness, in the context of the establishment of a genuinely democratic government that has the confidence and support of the Burmese people, to consider sympathetically proposals designed to assist Burma's economic recovery from three decades of mismanagement and economic stagnation. (WPD 9/9)

No U.S. Intervention in Burma

Sept. 13: The United States Embassy announced that there was no truth in rumours that US Navy units are in Burmese territorial waters, or that US troops had landed in Burma. The US has not and will not interfere with the internal affairs of Burma. It hopes that the present situation can be quickly and peacefully resolved in a manner which meets the aspirations of the Burmese people for democracy. (WPD 9/14)

Soviet Press Statement

Sept. 16: A Soviet Embassy press release carries the text of a Statement made on September 15 by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR [text]:

We in the Soviet Union have been closely watching the developments in Burma where demonstrations and strikes were held in support of the opposition leader's demands for forming an interim government which would comprise individuals enjoying popular trust, the Soviet and foreign journalists were told on 15.9.1988 by Gennady Gerassimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Information Department.

We believe that the developments in Burma are totally an internal affair of that country. The Soviet people consider with understanding and sympathy the striving of the Burmese people to democratization, to the solution of the pressing political and socio-economic problems, and hope that the national forces of Burma will succeed in reaching settlement and attaining national accord by peaceful means.

We also consider inadmissible any foreign interference as well as outside pressure aimed at influencing the developments in Burma with the purposes alien to the interests of the Burmese people, Gennady Gerassimov concluded. (WPD 9/17)

Attach,s Briefed on LORC

Sept. 22: Director of Defence Services Intelligence Brig-Gen. Kyin Nyunt briefed the foreign military attach,s. He said the Tatmadaw [Armed Forces] had "had to unavoidably assume responsibilities of the State Organs in order to save the general deteriorating situation in the whole country...." At first demonstrators were peaceful, but they were "later infiltrated by violence-prone trouble-makers who agitated and instigated barbaric violence such as decapitation...." Some became "extremely offensive" to the Army, as at the Trade Office. Up to Sept. 17, the Army refrained from shooting.

Declaration No. 1/88 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [LORC] took immediate measures for maintenance of law and order, providing secure transportation, striving for better conditions of food, clothing and shelter, and rendering aid to the private sector and co-operatives. Finally, "when these measures are completed to hold multi-party democracy general elections" as soon as possible. When elections are successfully completed, the Tatmadaw would "systematically hand over power to the party which comes into power." He said the Tatmadaw had no desire to hold on to State power for a long time. (WPD 9/23)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Statements on European Aid

Sept. 3: The University Teachers' Association (provisional) issued statements released by West Germany on Aug. 12 and 31, and by the European Community on Aug. 19. The German Government expressed anxiety about the violation of human rights in Burma, and said it took a leading part in the EEC declaration expressing hope that the Burmese government will avoid bloodshed. Joint FRG-Burmese projects have been suspended, and new ones not initiated, and talks on debt reduction have been delayed. Germany is now "making efforts to extend direct aid to organizations which are not connected with the government. ...the first consignment of medical supplies have now arrived in Burma. (Guardian 9/5)

BBC Broadcast Refuted

Sept. 4: "The Tatmadaw denied the news about Tatmadaw broadcast over the British Broadcasting Corporation at 6.45 am today." (Guardian 9/5)

Australian Aid Appreciated

Sept. 17: The Muslim Free Hospital in Rangoon, in "An Appreciation and Appeal" said it was "profoundly grateful" to the Embassy of Australia in Rangoon for "its timely gift of medicines and other hospital necessities." It "fervently appeals to the Diplomatic Missions as well as the United Nations Agencies in Burma" for similar gifts. (WPD 9/17)

U.S. Aid for Rice

Sept. 17: The U.S. Embassy announced that the U.S. Agency for International Development was donating US\$ 500,000, to be given to religious groups for purchasing rice within Burma for free distribution to needed residents of Rangoon. (WPD 9/18)

FOREIGN VISITORS

U.S. Congressional Visit

Sept. 4: President Dr. Maung Maung met with visiting U.S. Congressman Stephen J. Solarz, Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives East Asia and Pacific Affairs sub-committee, who later departed after a 24-hour fact-finding visit. Also at the meeting were U.S. Ambassador Burton Levin and Prime Minister U Tun Tin, and Foreign Minister U Ye Goung. Congressman Solarz expressed hopes for the peaceful resolution of Burma's problems and rapid progress toward meeting the desires of the Burmese people for democracy. (WPD 9/5) // Solarz met with Gen. U Tin Oo, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and Brig-Gen. U Aung Gyi. (Guardian photos 9/5)

BURMESE DELEGATIONS

Burmese Association (Japan)

Sept. 15: Burmese students in Japan assembled on Sept. 11 at Kantasgyi hill near Hamamatsu, where Aung San had camped, to pay tribute to the fight for independence and democracy and to form the Burmese Association (Japan). Col. Suzuki's widow (Bo Moe Gyo) laid wreaths. Chairman U Min Nyo received a Japanese donation of 250,000 yen. The Association plans a demonstration at the Burmese Embassy in Tokyo on Sept. 15. [photo] (Guardian 9/16)

GOVERNMENT

Law & Order Council Officials

[Sept. 18 - As the issue announcing the makeup of the Government established by Gen. Saw Maung's State Law and Order Restoration Council on Sept. 18 was not received, we have compiled the following list of top officials from subsequent issues: - HCM]

Chairman: Chief of Staff of the Defence Services Gen. Saw Maung
Director of Defence Services Intelligence: Brig-Gen. Kyin Nyunt
Director-General, People's Police Force: Col. Thura Pe Aung
LORC Chairman, Pegu Division: Brig-Gen. Aye Thoung (Commander, Central Command)
LORC Chairman, Rakhine State: Brig-Gen. Mya Thinn (Commander, Western Command)
LORC Chairman, Irrawaddy Division: Brig-Gen. Myint Aung (Commander, South-West Command)
LORC Chairman, Kayah State: Brig-Gen. Maung Aye (Commander, Eastern Command)
LORC Chairman, Mandalay Division: Brig-Gen. Tun Kyi (Commander, North-West Command)
LORC Chairman, Mon State: Brig-Gen. Nyan Lin (Commander, South-East Command)
LORC Chairman, Rangoon Division: Brig-Gen. Myo Nyunt (Commander, Rangoon Command)
LORC Chairman, Shan State: Brig-Gen. Maung Aye (Commander, Eastern Command)
LORC Chairman, Tenasserim Division: Brig-Gen. Nyan Lin (Commander, South-East Command)
LORC Chairman, Kachin State: Brig-Gen. Kyaw Ba (Commander, Northern Command)
Member, State LORC: Brig-Gen. Maung Thint (Commander, North-East Command)

Minister for Agriculture & Forests: Maj-Gen. Chit Swe
Minister for Co-operatives: Maj-Gen. Chit Swe
Minister for Education (Acting): Dr. U Pe Thein
Minister for Energy: Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin
Minister for Health: Dr. U Pe Thein
Minister for Information and for Culture: Maj-Gen. Phone Myint
Minister for Livestock & Fisheries: Maj-Gen. Chit Swe
Minister for Mines: Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin
Minister for Religious and Home Affairs: Maj-Gen. Phone Myint
Minister for Social Welfare and for Labour (Acting): Dr. U Pe Thein
Minister for Trade: Colonel Abel

Return to Normalcy

Sept. 23: "In the minds of most citizens, the return to normalcy is most welcome after a period of turmoil and confusion.... The State Law and Order Restoration Council has responded to people's wishes and has created a favourable environment for attaining the aspirations of the people.... At this point it is important for the people not be distracted from the essential objective of successfully holding a multi-party democracy general elections.... It is equally important that this peaceful means of democratic exercise should not be distracted by the militant activities of those who feel that armed struggle is the only way to gain democracy. (WPD editorial 9/23)

Laws to Remain in Force

Sept. 24: Declaration No. 6/88 of the State LORC provides that [text]:

All laws existing on 18th September 1988, the date on which the State Law and Order Restoration Council took charge of the sovereign powers of the State, shall remain in effect until and unless repealed.

Sd/ General Saw Maung, Chairman

State Law and Order Restoration (WPD 9/25)

Council

Justice Organs Reorganized

Sept. 26: The State LORC promulgated Law No. 2/88 concerning administration of justice and Law No. 3/88 regarding appointment of

an Attorney-General. (WPD 9/27)

Sept. 27: The State LORC Order No. 5/88 formed the "Chief Court" as follows:

Chief Judge: U Aung Toe

Judges: U Aye Ohn; U Kyaw Tint; U Myo Htun Lynn; U Khin Maung Aye.

Order No. 6/88 appointed the following:

Attorney-General: U Tha Tun

Deputy Attorney-General: U Kyaw Win.

Order No. 7/88 named the following:

Auditor-General: U Khin Zaw

Deputy Auditor-General: U Maung Maung Khin. (WPD 9/28)

Local Government Reorganized

Sept. 27: State/Division People's Council Offices are renamed State/Division General Affairs Departments. Township People's Council Offices are renamed Township General Affairs Departments. (WPD 9/28)

State LORC Declaration No. 7/88 of Sept. 26 provides that:

The Township Sector LORC is established as follows: Chairman: a Tatmadaw officer; Members: Deputy Head of the General Department and Deputy Head of the State/Division People's Police Force; Secretary: assigned by the Chairman.

The Ward/Village Sector LORC is established as follows: Chairman: chosen from members by the Township LORC; Members: three "respected citizens of Ward/Village Sector."; Clerk: service personnel; "They should not be members of any political party." (WPD 9/28)

More Laws Promulgated

Sept. 28: The State LORC promulgated Law No. 4/88 dealing with political parties registration; and Law No. 5/88 dealing with the Auditor-General.

The former Office of the Council of State is changed to the State Law and Order Central Office, with offices at No. 1, Windermere, Rangoon. (WPD 9/29)

MILITARY

Soldiers Support Democracy

Sept. 7: Sixteen Tatmadaw members from the Regiment 16 (paratroopers) at Hmawbi Township "joined forces in the struggle being waged by the people for abolishing one-party system and for attaining democracy" held a press conference, and joined the Hmawbi Township Student Union Strike Committee to take part in the struggle for democracy [names and numbers given, privates and one lance corporal]. They said 95% of the Tatmadaw would like to take part in the struggle and would follow suit. They said soldiers regretted having to shoot on orders at the people, and the death of brothers and sisters. A few officers wanted to join the people. (WPD 9/8)

Captain Gives Press Conference

Sept. 14: Army Captain Sai Win Kyaw (BC 17514) of the 208 Light Infantry Regiment of the No. 22 Light Infantry Division, gave a press conference. [photo] (WPD 9/15) He said soldiers "should serve the interest of the people rather than that of an individual or a handful of people. This had not been the case. The top ranking military officers are also the highest officials in the BSPP and hold the highest political and administrative posts." Soldiers should resign from the BSPP and the government should "withdraw the Tatmadaw role of being the hardcore of the party." (Guardian 9/15)

KNU Saboteurs

Sept. 17: KNU saboteurs Myo Win and Yan Shin, natives of North Okkalapa, left Kawlin, near Kyaikto, on Sept. 14. by boat for Kayan/Rangoon, bringing explosives and three guns. Myo Win is about 30, 5'3" tall, with a square wide jaw, tattoos of a leopard on both arms, speaks with a Mon accent, and used to wear a field jacket, jeans, and

carry a black "handbag." Rahans, students, and workers are asked to co-operate in exposing them. (WPD 9/18)

Army Discipline Ordered

Sept. 22: The following order was issued by the Office of the Chief of Staff of Defence Services to all Tatmadaw personnel on Sept. 19 [text]:

(a) Since the Tatmadaw is the Pyithu Tatmadaw, it will win the respect of the people only if it is the most disciplined.

(b) Every Tatmadaw member must be free of scandal concerning money matters.

(c) They should also avoid getting mixed up with females; avoid breaching military discipline; avoid indecent acts and avoid aggressive forcefulness in particular.

(d) abuse and misuse of authority must be avoided.

(e) In dealing with service personnel or other organizations on duty or on other matters, they must deal amicably so as to uphold the prestige of the Tatmadaw.

(WPD 9/23)

Roundup of Military Actions

Sept. 22: On Aug. 10, an Army column encountered 100 KNU insurgents from the No. 16 battalion near Nat Chaung-wa in Kya-in-Seikkyi Township [Karen]. Ten insurgents were killed and six small arms seized. One Tatmadaw member died and 3 were wounded.

On Sept. 8, the Army fought 80 KNU insurgents from No. 10 battalion, led by Khaing Yaza and Soe Thein, in the Pa-dat Pok-maing area. Five insurgents were killed and four weapons seized. One Tatmadaw member died.

On Sept. 8, the Army clashed with a "Shan insurgent extortion" group near Man Phai Lei village in Mong Yai Township [Shan]. Three insurgents were killed and two weapons seized.

On Sept. 11, the Army met an SSA insurgent group near Nawngkhun village in Hsipaw Township [Shan]. Three insurgents were killed and two pistols seized.

In the Eastern Command area [no date given] the Army fought SSA insurgents from No. 801 battalion in the eastern section of Mong Nang camp in Kehsi Mansam Township [Shan]. Five insurgents were killed and three weapons seized.

On Aug. 30-31, the army clashed with SSA insurgents from No. 1016 battalion in the eastern section of Mong Nai Township [Shan]. Two insurgents were killed and seven weapons captured.

On Sept. 12, the army clashed with SURA insurgents in the western sector of Tachilek Township [Shan]. Two insurgents were killed and four weapons captured.

On Sept. 14, the army fought SSA insurgents from No. 801 battalion in the northern sector of Kyailun in Kehsi Mansam Township [Shan]. Five insurgents, including a platoon commander, were killed and four weapons seized. One Tatmadaw member was wounded. (WPD 9/23)

Sept. 26: 30 Shan insurgents killed 10 civilians and wounded three at a social ceremony in the house of U Sam Yun of Namsauk village, Tangyan Township [Shan], because they failed to pay extortion money. (WPD 9/27)

Heavy Fighting Reported

Sept. 27: Heavy fighting is reported between BCP insurgents and the Army in Mong Yang Township, Shan State. BCP units attacked the outer perimeter camp on Sept. 14, 17, and 20. 500 BCP attacked the La-min-gon camp of No. 11 Burma Regiment on Sept. 23; the outnumbered unit had to retreat. 1,500 BCP insurgents from the Nos. 768, 5, and 7 brigades and 815 region attacked No. 11 Burma Regiment hillock camps such as Yan-shin-gon and Paya-gon, and the Tatmadaw had to retreat and regroup at Aung-tagun camp; fighting is continuing. The army is also fighting 400 BCP insurgents along the Papun Range near Mong Yang; airforce planes have made ground support attacks Sept. 24-26. BCP lost 36 dead and 23 weapons were captured.

Tatmadaw dead were 44, including the commanding officer of No. 11 Burma Regiment, and 92 wounded. [map]

Meanwhile, 80 KNU insurgents on Sept. 26 overran a Tatmadaw camp at Ant Kyaw Gon (or Buthawkyo) on the perimeter of the Me Tha Waw camp held by the Hlangbwe Township forward No. 76 Burma Regiment in Karen State. One Tatmadaw officer and 4 men are missing. [map] (WPD 9/28)

Sept. 29: 1,500 BCP troops attacked Mong Yang and army camps from Sept. 23-26, but were repulsed. 36 enemies were killed and 23 weapons captured.

From Sept. 23-29, there have been 14 major battles, 23 skirmishes, and 30 close encounters. 63 enemies were killed and 23 weapons seized. Burma Army lost 5 officers and 42 men killed, and 6 officers and 98 men wounded. One policeman died and one is missing. The airforce has provided support. [map] (WPD 9/30)

ECONOMIC

Electricity Situation

Aug. 31: The Electric Power Corporation asked for public cooperation, and denied rumors that criminals planned to cut electric power at night to "do unscrupulous acts" in some Rangoon wards. (WPD 9/1)

Water Supply Projects

Sept. 3: The Phugyi Water Supply Project, financed with loans from the Asian Development Bank and the petroleum exporting countries, will provide 54 million more gallons of water daily to Rangoon. The reservoir construction is completed, and pipe-laying work is being carried out. The Mandalay water supply project, begun in 1983-84 with similar loans, is 82.2% completed; it will provide Mandalay with 23 million more gallons of water daily. The town water supply project, begun in 1985-86 is being implemented in 9 towns with loans from the Japan International Co-operation Agency. (WPD 9/4)

Oil to be Distributed

Sept. 7: Information Officer Thakin Chit Maung (Widhura) of the Democracy and Peace Group said that the Oil Division had refined petroleum and would be distributed through supervision committees made up of workers, unions, students, and the Sangha, beginning Sept. 9. 11 million gallons of machinery oil and 18 lakhs of diesel oil would be refined by Man Thanpayagan. (WPD 9/8)

Rice Shortage

Sept. 13: U Nu, Patron of the League for Peace and Democracy, said that there is a rice shortage in Rangoon, but plenty in rural areas, and called for help in resolving transport problems. He asked rice traders to render assistance. (WPD 9/14)

Sept. 15: The Yankin Township kyaung-htaing Sayadaw-gyi-mya htaukphan-yay Aphwe and the myanma-pyi lungai toetetyay athin (Yankin Township branch) have brought in 565 bags of rice to sell at reasonable prices to people who are really in need. (WPD 9/16)

Sept. 15: The ke-ze-htauk-pant-yay aphwe (relief committee)--Maha-yangon of the Buddha Sasana Nuggaha Organization was formed at the Mahasi Sasana Yeiktha on Sept. 15, with representation from the Buddha Sasana Organization, Tipitakadhara Niyaka, Jivitanana Hospital, YMBA, Hindu religious association and Burma Muslim association, to help people buy rice at reasonable prices and to distribute rice free to the poor. Receiving points for donations are given; those wishing to sell and buy rice may enquire at No. 334/336 Strand Street (corner of 28th Street) or telephone to 85790 or 80024. (WPD 9/18)

Sept. 16: On Sept. 8, after looting in 38 locations, rice vanished from view. In a few days it re-appeared, but at prices as high as Ky 28 per pyi for "not very good quality rice." Members of the Sangha and students "rendered their service in the transport, sale and distribution" of rice, which brought the price down as low

as Ky 12 per pyi. Rice merchants have pledged to bring in rice, and port workers to take good care of it. Students will ensure that it reaches its destination. "All these arrangements have assuaged the public anxiety." (WPD editorial 9/16)

Sept. 23: Minister for Trade Col. Abel met with military personnel to ensure prompt distribution of rice to the people. He ordered prompt distribution of 10,000 bags of rice each in Nos. 1 and 2 military regions, and 5,000 bags each in Nos. 3 and 4 military regions, from Ministry of Trade godowns which "had been prevented from looting." (WPD 9/24)

Food Supplies

Sept. 16: Edible oil imported by the Ministry of Trade has arrived and will be distributed to the working people by the Ministry of Co-operatives. (Guardian 9/17)

Sept. 23: Vessels from Bassein and Kyaiklat [Irrawaddy] were dispatched to Rangoon Sept. 22, with 7,618 bags of rice, 1,500 bags of salt, 8,500 viss of vermacelli, 6,280 viss of salted fish, 11,440 viss of dried fish, 334 bags of coconut, 40 drums of lard, 38 crates of eggs, 6 baskets of betel nut, and 5,000 containers of charcoal. Fish and prawns will also be sent from Irrawaddy Division to Rangoon. (WPD 9/24)

Sept. 25: Irrawaddy Division, between Sept. 23-25, sent to Rangoon a total of 8,631 bags of rice, 7,768 containers of charcoal, 11,681 viss of dried fish, 13,225 viss of salted fish, 284 viss of coconut kernel, 40 viss of lard, 3,085 viss of dried prawns, 270 baskets of beans and pulses, 253 containers of betel nuts, 5,870 viss of poultry, 553 bags of coconuts, 379 boxes of eggs, 3,850 viss of fish, 100 viss of vermicelli, 100 viss of prawns, 450 viss of vegetables, 200 tons of matpe, 169 tons of broken rice, etc.

4,000 bags of rice, 2,000 bags of broken rice, and 2,400 bags of matpe will be sent from Bassein tomorrow. (WPD 9/26)

Sept. 26: The following were sent from Irrawaddy Division to Rangoon on Sept. 25 and 26: 8,979 bags of rice, 1,254 bags of coconut, 919 containers of eggs, 4,880 viss of ngapi, 7,500 viss of salt fish (nga-chauk), 7,365 viss of fish; 210 bags of salted fish (ngapi-gaung), 860 viss of poultry, 80 viss of dried prawns, 2,520 bags of broken rice, 76 bags of glutinous rice, 200 tons of matpa, 600 viss of prawns, and 26 viss of vegetables.

Tomatoes have been sent from Shan State to Mandalay Division: Mandalay - 82,800 viss from Sept. 22-24, 33,600 viss on Sept. 25; Singaing - 11,200 viss on Sept. 25; Kyaukme - 22,400 viss on Sept. 25. (WPD 9/27)

Sept. 29: More food is being sent to Rangoon from Irrawaddy Division. From the Agricultural Farm Products Trade Corporation: 954 tons of rice, 7 tons of broken rice, 89 tons of export-quality rice, 463 tons of export-quality broken rice, and 21 tons of matpe. From private sources: 4,695 bags of rice, 505 bags of peas, 572 boxes of eggs, 11,675 viss of poultry, 1,208 bags of bran cake, 645 viss of dried chili, 2,075 viss of tobacco, 430 bags of betel, 46 bags of betel nuts, 1,250 viss of vermacelli, 13,450 baskets of charcoal, 50,000 viss of sale, 322 bags of coconuts, 3,050 viss of dried prawns, 14,500 viss of salt fish, 6,220 viss of fresh fish, 600 viss of ngapi, and 1,920 of prawns.

Shan State has sent to Rangoon, Thazi, Mandalay, Meiktila, Toungoo, and Thandaung Townships: 114 tons of potatoes, 32 tons of cabbage, 0.8 tons of chili, 14 tons of vegetables, and 31.4 tons of rice. (WPD 9/30)

Resumption of Services

Sept. 22: Regular Rangoon commuter services will soon resume. Mandalay-Pyinmana down-train service resumed today. (WPD 9/23)

Sept. 24: Bassein, Henzada, Myanaung, and Kyangyin trains in Irrawaddy Division resumed service Sept. 21. (WPD 9/25)

Sept. 25: Vessels serving Bassein resumed services. Passenger rail service resumed: Mandalay-Pyinmana on Sept. 22; Prome-Kemmendine

and Pyinmana-Rangoon on Sept. 24; Mandalay-Rangoon and Shwenyaung-Thazi on Sept. 25. Rail-truck service on the Toungoo-Pyuntaza, Nyaunglebin-Madauk, and Pegu-Puntaza routes resumed. Circular Rail service [Rangoon commuter] may resume tomorrow. (WPD 9/26)

Sept. 26: Rail service between Rangoon and Mandalay resumed Sept. 22. (WPD 9/27)

Sept. 27: Rail service has resumed on the Bassein-Kangin, Moulmein-Ye, Pyinmana-Kyaukpadaung, Mandalay-Rangoon Express, Prome-Rangoon, Letpadan-Tharawa, Maymyo-Mandalay, Thazi-Shwenyaung, and Myingyan-Thazi lines. Circular rail [Rangoon commuter] service has resumed from Rangoon to Insein and Rangoon to Thingangyun Tegyaunglay. [Rangoon] bus service has resumed with 199 buses in service [lines listed], and 24 taxis are back in service. (WPD 9/28)

Sept. 28: Burma Airways Corporation flights to Bangkok, Mergui, Sittwe, Mandalay, and Myitkyina will resume October 1. Rail service between Mandalay and Myitkyina resumed Sept. 28.

Three petrol stations in Rangoon have been opened to supply vehicles of the Rangoon All Private Bus-lines Control Committee. (WPD 9/29)

Sept. 29: Inland Water Transportation Corporation vessels have resumed daily service between Rangoon and Bassein, alternate day service to Pyapon, and Mawlamyaingyun, and twice weekly service to Labutta, Prome, and Einme. Weekly service will begin on the Mandalay-Bhamo, Mandalay-Prome, Monywa-Homalin, and Monywa-Kalewa routes. 10 day service is operate on the Homalin-Hkamti route. The Moulmein-Martaban ferry runs twice a day; the Rangoon-Syriam ferry four times a day; the Moulmein-Pa-an ferry on alternate days. Service in Rakhine State is normal and on its old schedule. (WPD 9/30)

Resumption of Work

Sept. 22: In Kayah and Kachin States, all service personnel have returned to work. Other back to work statistics for service personnel are: Northern Shan State: 24% in Namtu Bawdwin [mine site], 100% in 16 townships [not named]; Southern Shan State: 100% in Hopong; 80% in Taunggyi. (WPD 9/23)

Sept. 23: Back to work statistics: Karen State: 90% in Pa-an, Kawkareik, Myawaddy, and Hlaingbwe Townships. Tenasserim Division: 90% in Thandaung Township; 50% in Yebyu, Tavoy, Launglon, Thayetchaung, Kawthaung, Bokpyin, Tenasserim, Palaw, and Kyunsu Townships. Pegu Division: 50% in Pegu, Daik-U, Waw, and Thanatpin; 79.9% in Okpo; 85% in Yedashe; over 90% in Taungoo, Oktwin, Pyu, Kyauktaga, Htantabin, Kyaukkyi, Shwekyin, and Paukkaung Townships.

The Htauk-sha-bin oil field, Mann oil field and Turbine gas factory in Magwe Division are back at work. (WPD 9/24)

Sept. 24: Back to work statistics are: Pegu Division: 65% in Pegu; 80% in Waw and Thanatpin; 70% in Kawa; 75% in Nyaunglebin; 65% in Daik-U Townships. Tenasserim Division: 60% in Mergui; 94% in Palaw; 100% in Tenasserim; 93.23% in Kawthaung; and 60% in Bokeyyin Townships. Mon State: 77.15% in Thanbyuzayat; 74% in Ye Townships. (WPD 9/25)

Sept. 25: Service personnel back to work statistics are: Irrawaddy Division: over 90% in Bassein, Henzada, Kyonpyaw, Yekyi, Danubyu, Kyaunggon, Einme, and Kyaiklat; over 80% in Myanaung, Ingapu, Bassein-East, and Dedaye; over 70% in Zalun, Thabaung, and Ngapudaw Townships; and workers from the Methanol and Cement plants in Kyangin Township. Tenasserim Division: 71% in Launglon; 45% in Yebyu; and 40% in Thayetchaung Townships. Mon State: 75% in Chaungzon; 50% in Moulmein; 30% in Mudon; and 20% in Kyaikmaraw Townships. Karen State: 85% in Kya-in-Seik-kyi Township. (WPD 9/26)

Sept. 26: Back to work statistics are: 81% at Heavy Industries Corporation No. 3; 19% at No. 4; 50% at No. 5, as of Sept. 22. Tenasserim Division: 85% in Mergui; 95% in Kawthaung; 96% in Palaw; 70% in Bokpyin; 65% in Kyun-zu; 90% in Tavoy; 50% in Yebyu; 85% in Launglon; and 100% in Tenasserim Townships. Mon State: 62% in Moulmein; 85.54% in Thanbyuzayat; 71.43% in Ye; 75% in Mudon; 65% in

Chaungzon Townships. Sagaing Division: 82% overall. Rangoon Division: 57% in Mingaladon; 48.26% in Insein; 64.31% in Mayangon; 79.09% in North Okkalapa; 55.59% in Hlaing; 50% in Yankin; 40% in South Okkalapa; 35% in Thingangyun; 30% in Dawbon; 40% in Thaketa; 53% in Bahan; 52.7% in Ahlone; 48.15% in Dagon; 43.11% in Sanchaung; 50.5% in Kemmendine; 63% in Kamayut; 60% in Kyauktada; 77% in Botataung; and 50% in Tamwe Townships. (WPD 9/27)

Sept. 27: Local government attendance in Mandalay city has reached 67.42%. (WPD 9/28)

Sept. 28: Statistics of service personnel at work are: 100% at Mandalay Post Office and Mawchi Mine in Pasawng Township; 62% at Ministry of Health; 54% at Home and Religious Affairs; 65% at Culture; 74% at Planning & Finance; and 70% at Trade. (WPD 9/29)

Sept. 29: Back to work statistics are: 84% at Ministry of Planning & Finance; 71.13% at Home and Religious Affairs; 67.49 at Culture; 59% at Information; 57% at Energy; 64% at Construction; 67% at Transport & Communications; 61.09% at Foreign Affairs; 62.99% at Mines; 84% at Labour and Social Welfare; and 72% at Health.

Percentages upcounty were, Sept. 27-28: 65% in Kyaukse; 66% in Khawbude; 67% in Mandalay; 70% in Ngaphe, Salin, and Machanbaw; 75% in Minhla, Kamaing, Hkamti, Sintgaing, Minbu, Pakokku, and Nawngmon; 80% in Moulmein, N'Jangyang, Myitkyina, Nyothit, Natmauk, Setoktara, Putao, and Sumprabum; 84% in Ye, Myaung and Tada-U; 88% in Mogaung and Thanbyuzayat; 90% in Mudon and Leshli; 92% in Kya-in-Seikkyi and Mohnyin; 94% in Myayde, Pwintbyu and Kyunchaung; 95% in Waingmaw, Bhamo, Magwe, Pyinmana, Tatkon, and Yamethin; 96% in Kyaukkyi, Kyauktaga, Yetashi, Pyu, and Thandaung; 97% in Oktwin, Htantabin, Shwekyin, Mansi, Kantbalu, and Sinbaungwe; 98% in Toungoo; 99% in Chipwe, Hsawlaw, and Myittha; and 100% in Chaungzon.

Attendance on Sept. 29 was: 91% in Yebyu and Bokpyin; 93% in Thayetchaung; 95% in Mergui and Kawthaung; 98% in Khunsu and Palaw; and 100% in Tavoy and Tenasserim.

Attendance was 90% in Sagaing Division; 93% in Sagaing Township; and 95.55% in Mandalay Division. (WPD 9/30)

Rainfall in Rangoon

Rainfall since January 1, 1988, in inches, at Rangoon's three weather stations of Rangoon Airport (RA), Kaba-Aye (KA), and Central Rangoon (CR) was:

As of	RA	KA	CR
Sept. 1	69.37	72.52	81.42
Sept. 15	[not published]		
Sept. 30	82.17	83.15	90.83

HEALTH

Donations to Rangoon Hospital

Sept. 1: Workers from the Rangoon City Electric Power Supply Extension Program contributed Ky 1,700 to the Rangoon General Hospital, to treat "those wounded in the current struggle for democracy." (WPD 9/2)

Sept. 5: Students, townsfolk, and Sangha from Kawkareik, Karen State, contributed Ky 25,000 and 52 gallons of petrol to the Rangoon General Hospital, for treatment of those "injured in the demonstrations staged for democracy." (WPD 9/6)

Sept. 17: The Nyi-nyunt-hmu Hnint Pyu-byin-pyaung-le-yay Kaw-mit-ti at the Rangoon General Hospital is "looking after the poor providing them with financial assistance. Funds donated by the public health dispensaries, and will be open from 8 am to 2 pm. (WPD 9/17)

Water Poisoning Rumors

Sept. 3: There are rumors of water being poisoned. Specialists say water can be tested by putting a live fish in a small container. "The fish will not be able to stay unperturbed if the water contains poisonous matter, and will react violently. If this

happens, the water should not be used." (WPD 9/4)

Sept. 4: The Rangoon authorities assured that city water was not poisoned. No cases of water poisoning have been reported, and reservoirs have been tested. Rangoon uses 50 million gallons daily; 27 million from Pugyi Reservoir; 13 from Hlawga Reservoir; and 10 million from tube wells. But even the Gyobyu Reservoir, unused since May 1988, has good water. (WPD 9/5)

People's Clinics to Open

Sept. 15: A People's Clinic is to open in Mingala Taungnyunt Township [Rangoon], sponsored by the the Public Health Union--Rangoon (Provisional) (Pyithu kyanmayay wundan-myar ya-yi tha-megga). Located in U Zaw Win's building in Thabyegon Quarter, Bowlane Road, it will be open from 8 am to 2 pm daily. (WPD 9/16) // A clinic has opened at the Ngwe Kyaryan Pariyatti Sar-thin-taik of No. 3 Ward in South Okkalapa. (Guardian 9/16) // Sept. 16: Clinics will be opened at the North Okkalapa township dispensaries. (WPD 9/17)

Hospitals on Strike

Sept. 16: Until an interim government is formed, out-patient departments of hospitals and clinics will be closed. However, emergency departments will remain open round the clock. Clinics will be opened in the Townships. (WPD 9/17)

Health Services Resume

Sept. 28: Secondary health centers, dispensaries, hospitals, and general hospitals under the Rangoon Division Health Department are functioning [listings]. The hospitals listed are: East Rangoon, West Rangoon, South Okkalapa Child and Maternity, Insein General, Universities, Kaba Aye Sangha, Tower Lane Women's, Phaunggyi Central Institute of Public Services, Htoogyi Sangha, and Thaketa. (WPD 9/29)

CULTURAL

Konbaung Period Writers

Sept. 5: In the thirtieth in his series on Konbaung Period writers, U Aung Moe discusses "Princess Hlaing Hteik Khaung Tin." She was born in 1833 to Poetess Ma Mya Gale, the Western Queen of Prince Tharrawaddy, and her father became king in 1837. Her mother was executed in 1845 for involvement in the plot of the Prince of Prome. In 1853, after Mindon became King, the Hlaing Princess was married to her cousin the Kanaung Prince Einshe Min (heir apparent); their only surviving son became the Tantabin Prince.

A romantic poetess, like her mother, Hlaing created a new class of songs known as baw-les. These expressed her grief at her husbands absence and neglect. She also wrote the Wizayakaryi Pyazat and the Indawuntha Pyazat, plays intended for reading rather than performance, reflecting her life as wife of a Prince with many wives. She composed her Pan Thinli patpyo and her "everlasting" Nya-thon-yan-khar patpyo on awaiting her husbands return through the night. Her Yeyamon patpyo is a lullaby for her infant son, the Tantabin Prince, using common lullabies such as the Shwe-byine-nyo, the Kyaung-bar-mee-dan and the Kazunbin.

In 1866 her husband was assassinated in Mandalay, at the age of 46, by the Myingun and Myingondaing Princes. Hlaing was then 33, and lived on for 9 years, dying in 1875 at the age of 42. Her only son, the Tantabin Prince, was slain in the confusion around the ascension of King Thibaw in 1878. There is no doubt that Hlaing Hteik Khaung Tin, who also composed many tay-htats, lay-sits, and ratus, ranked with Myawaddy Mingyi U Sa in her composition of patpyos, and all credit for her creation of baw-les. (WPD 9/5)

ADNG Students Studying

Sept. 24: Students at the Academy for Development of National Groups, Ywathitgyi, Sagaing Division, did not take part in recent

disturbances and "are now pursuing studies." (WPD 9/25)

Archaeology

Sept. 26: A feature article entitled "Luyodaung, the hill of human bones," by Tint Aung Han, describes Pebble-tool culture implements and animal bones at Luyodaung, a village 14 miles north of Shwenyaung on the Taunggyi-Lawksawk road [Shan], where the author found "one of the richest vertebrate fossils sites in Burma" in April 1984. The site was presumably once on the northern shore of ancient Inle Lake, which extended as far north as the Kunlon plain in Pleistocene times. The Luyodaung finds are similar to those from Pyinyaung (WPD, Aug. 4, 1986), but are larger; some as large as 5 inches diameter, and some are bored. (WPD 9/26)

MISCELLANEOUS

Crime News

Sept. 26: Security forces in Khashi village, Lashio Township [Shan] on Sept. 23 seized two bags of raw opium. (WPD 9/27)

Sept. 28: 26 gamblers were arrested in Rangoon, together with Ky 1,420.50 in stakes. (WPD 9/29)

Obituaries

Sept. 8: Mrs. William Paw, nee Audrey Zan, wife of Prof. William Paw (Institute of Economics-retired), Secretary of the Burma Council of Churches, died at her home in Rangoon, aged 71. (WPD 9/9)

Sept. 21: Maxwell James Garnier, (B.A.), Superintendent (rtd.), Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs, died in Rangoon, aged 66. (WPD 9/28)

Sept. 26: Dr. K.P. Chowdhury, husband of Mrs. Heronmoyee Chowdhury, died in Rangoon, aged 83. (WPD 9/27)

Sept. 26: Jagannath Baral, father of Mr. D.N. Baral, etc., died in Kathmandu, Nepal, aged 90. (WPD 9/28)

Sept. 26: Leading Nayaka of Shwehintha Tawya Kyaungtaik in Nyaungdon, Irrawaddy Division, Chairman of the State Ovadacariya Shwekyin Nikaya Upa Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Vimala (Satoktha Sankyaung Sayadaw Phayagy), vassa 65, died at the age of 85. (WPD 9/29)

Guard Dogs

Sept. 17: Advertisement [text]:
Doberman Pups For Sale
Safeguard your house from looters.
No. 23, Station Rd., Bauktaw
Phone 50146
(WPD 9/17)

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