

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 16/04/96

19 January 1996

Further information on UA 04/96 (ASA 16/03/96, 10 January 1996) - Fear of ill-treatment

MYANMARU Pa Pa Lay (previously U Pa Pa), comedian
U Lu Zaw (previously U Luzan), comedian
Myodaw Win Mar (f) (previously Win Mai), dancer
Ma Hnin Pa Pa (f) (previously Hmin Pa Pa), dancer
U Tin Myint Hlaing (previously U Tin Myin Waling), musician
U Sein Hla (previously U Sein Hten), musician
U Win Htai, musician
U Htwe (previously Htwe), manager of dance troupe

new names: Daw Myaing (f), assistant to dancers
Ma Yin Tin Swe (f), assistant to dancers
U Myint Thein
U Aung Soe

Amnesty International has received new information concerning the arrests of members of the dance troupe *Myo Daw Win Mar Anyeint* (corrected spelling) on 7 January in Mandalay. Their leader, U Pa Pa Lay, had been arrested previously in 1991 when he served a two-year prison sentence for making a political joke against the military authorities and in favour of the National League for Democracy (NLD). U Htwe, the manager of the troupe, is the NLD Chairman of the Mandalay Southeast Township.

Daw Myaing and Ma Yin Tin Swe, two assistants to the dancers, were arrested on 11 January. U Myint Thein and U Aung Soe, NLD members who had helped to arrange the troupe's performance on 4 January, were arrested on 12 January. There is still no information about where the 12 are being held, or if they have been charged and tried.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/airmail letters in English or in your own language:

- seeking assurances that the treatment of those arrested in connection with the dance troupe *Myo Daw Win Mar Anyeint* conforms to international standards and that they are being given proper access to family, lawyers of their choice and medical personnel;
- seeking information about the whereabouts and the exact charges against them;
- urging that, if they have been arrested solely for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and association, they be immediately and unconditionally released.

APPEALS TO:

1. Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman
State Law and Order Restoration Council
c/o Ministry of Defence, Signal Pagoda Road
Yangon, Union of Myanmar
Telegrams: General Than Shwe, Yangon, Myanmar
Telexes: 21316
Salutation: Dear General

2. Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, Secretary 1

State Law and Order Restoration Council
c/o Ministry of Defence, Signal Pagoda Road
Yangon, Union of Myanmar

Telegrams: Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, Yangon, Myanmar

Faxes: + 95 1 229 50

Salutation: Dear General

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Myanmar accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 10 March 1996.