EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: ASA 16/08/91 Distr: UA/SC

13 September 1991

Further information on EXTRA 62/91 (ASA 16/07/91, 11 September 1991) - Death Sentence

MYANMAR (formerly Burma):

Mai Pan Sein, aged 43, Thein Myint, aged 30

Amnesty International has now learned that Mai Pan Sein and Thein Myint were executed the same day they were condemned to death. According to reports quoting representatives of opposition groups, the death sentence was imposed under the authority of the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB). This opposition umbrella organization encompasses the National Democratic Front (NDF) of ethnic minority insurgents with the All-Burma Students Democratic Front, the Committee for the Restoration of Democracy in Burma, the All-Burma Young Monks Union, the Muslim Liberation Organization and a number of other armed or unarmed opposition groups. Together with the National League for Democracy (Liberated Area), they comprise the Anti-Military Dictatorship National Solidarity Committee (ADNSC).

After the verdicts and sentences against Mai Pan Sein and Myint Thein were passed, the Executive Committee of the DAB reportedly called a public meeting at Manerplaw at which these decisions were discussed and declared "just". The two men were then executed. According to one source, they were shot to death. According to another report, they may have been stabbed to death, a form of execution said to be used against "traitors".

A leading member of the NDF and DAB was quoted on 13 September 1991 as saying in response to Amnesty International's appeal that the men not be killed, "It is good to hear from them the concern of Amnesty International, but I am sorry it is too late."

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- expressing deep regret about and condemning the executions of Mai Pan Sein and Thein Myint;

- declaring your belief that the execution of prisoners is a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and is contrary to the Anti-Military Dictatorship National Solidarity Committee's proclaimed objective of working for the emergence of a government in Burma "that shall fully guarantee basic human rights";

- urging that the Anti-Military Dictatorship National Solidarity Committee, the Democratic Alliance of Burma, the National Democratic Front and all their constituent organizations adopt a policy of never executing prisoners, and that they commit themselves to the total abolition of the death penalty.

APPEALS TO:

1. General Bo Mya President of the DAB PO Box 168 Mae Ping Chiang Mai 50001, Thailand faxes: (66 2) 318 8697 2. Nai Shwe Kyin Vice President of the DAB PO Box 183 Chiang Mai 50000, Thailand faxes: (66 53) 247 264 or 247 627

3. Brang Seng Vice President of the DAB PO Box 183 Chiang Mai 50000, Thailand

4. Moe Thi Zun
Chairman of the ABSDF
PO Box 1352
Bangkok 10500, Thailand
faxes: (66 2) 318 8507
(NB: you must telephone and ask for this
fax to be turned on before transmission).

COPIES TO:

Dr Em Marta KNU Department of Foreign Affairs PO Box 11-792 Bangkok 10110, Thailand

Dr Sein Win Prime Minister of the NCGUB PO Box 1025 Bangkok 10504, Thailand

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 October 1991.