EXTERNAL AI Index: ASA 16/32/96

4 July 1996

Further information on EXTRA 73/96 (ASA 16/14/96, 21 May 1996) and follow-ups (ASA 16/6/96, 22 May; ASA 16/19/96, 24 May; ASA 16/22/96, 29 May; ASA 16/26/96, 7 June; ASA 16/28/96, 18 June) - Fear of torture / Legal Concern

MYANMARSome 33 people still detained

New arrests :Daw Aye Aye Win (f); U Than Htike; U Ba Min; Soe Thein; U Doe Daung; U K Thaya; Dr Hlaing Myint; U Hla Soe; U Maung Gyi; U Nyunt Tin; U Tin Hlaing; U Khin Maung Myint; Dr Khin Maung Kyi (f); Ma Ma Aye (f)

Although most of those arrested in the recent massive sweep of opposition political activists have been released, some 33 people are still held, including six NLD members of parliament-elect. Amnesty International has obtained the names of 14 people who have recently been detained as sporadic arrests continue throughout Myanmar.

U K Thaya, also known as U Kyaw, a monk from Yangon (Rangoon) who attended NLD weekend gatherings, was arrested sometime in May 1996. Dr Hlaing Myint, an NLD member also from Yangon, was arrested on an unknown date and is believed to be held in Insein Prison. U Nyunt Tin, a businessman, U Tin Hlaing, U Khin Maung Myint, Dr Khin Maung Kyi (f), and Ma Ma Aye (f), all from Monyway, Sagaing Division were arrested beginning on 4 June. U Hla Soe, an NLD member from Mandalay, was arrested on 13 June 1996. U Maung Gyi, also from Mandalay, was arrested on 18 June 1996.

Daw Aye Aye Win (f), an NLD member from Thakata, Yangon Division, was arrested on 30 June 1996. Her house was apparently searched and cassettes and NLD papers were confiscated. U Than Htike, an NLD member from Mandalay, was arrested on 19 June 1996. U Ba Min, the NLD township Secretary from Kalay, Sagaing Division, was arrested on 12 June 1996. Soe Thein, the NLD treasurer from Kalay was arrested on the same day. They were both taken to Mandalay on 19 June. Although Daw Nan Khin Htwe Myint (f), an MP-elect from the Kayin (Karen) State, was released, Amnesty International has learned of the arrest of another MP-elect. U Doe Daung, MP-elect from Kalay, Sagaing Division, was arrested on an unknown date. MP's-elect U Han Than Myint, U Kyaw Min, U Nay Oo, U Po Aye, and U Soe Thein are also believed to have been released.

The following people are still detained: Ko Thein Lin; U Aye Win; U Moe Thu; U Po Aye; U Thein Tin; U Win Htein; U Khin Maung Thaung; U Kyi Aung; U Tin Maung Aye; U Kyaw Htway; U Kyaw Thaung; U Pwar; U Aung Kyi; and Maung San Hlaing. The following MP's-elect are also still detained: U Kyaw Khin, Taunggyi, Shan State; Dr. Aye San, Kayin State; Khun Myint Htun, Thaton II, Mon State; U Saw Thein, Sagaing Division; U Kyaw Min, Bassein, Ayeyarwady (Irrawaddy) Division.

Amnesty International has no further information about the arrests of the 14 people named above, but remains concerned that political arrests are continuing. It is further concerned that the 33 people still in custody may be held solely for the peaceful expression of their political views.

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

- welcoming the recent releases of political activists;

- calling for the 33 opposition political activists still detained to be released immediately and unconditionally if they are being held solely for the peaceful expression of their non-violent political views;
- calling on the SLORC not to re-arrest any of these NLD members for their non-violent political views and activities.

APPEALS TO:

1. Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman State Law and Order Restoration Council c/o Director of Defence Services Intelligence (DDSI) Ministry of Defence, Signal Pagoda Road Dagon Post Office 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 Director of Defence Services Intelligence (DDSI) Ministry of Defence, Signal Pagoda Road Dagon Post Office

Yangon, Union of Myanmar

Telegrams: Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, Yangon, Myanmar

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 5 August 1996.