



NATIONAL COALITION GOVERNMENT UNION OF BURMA

PRESS RELEASE

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NCGUB Raises Concerns over Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's Detention

The National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma is deeply concerned by developments taking shape in Burma.

The democracy leader is reported to have dangerously low blood pressure and to be suffering severe dehydration, requiring her to be on an intravenous drip.

Reports of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's desperately ailing health and of the subsequent arrest of her physician indicate the regime is preparing to face the wave of outcry over her incarceration as calls for her unconditional release build.

Last year at the end of May, the Burmese generals extended the house arrest of Burma's democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi by one more year, which was declared by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions as unlawful because it "not only violates international law but also national domestic laws". Burma's 1975 State Protection Law only allows renewable arrest orders for a maximum of five years.

The time for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's long-overdue release -- she has already spent 13 of 19 years under detention -- is up once again at the end of May. Pressure is increasing on the Burmese regime to release the democracy leader, along with thousands of other political prisoners, as a means of giving some democratic credibility to national elections scheduled for 2010.

As this situation unfolds, sketchy reports of a breach of security by an American citizen named John Yeattaw at the heavily-guarded residence of the Nobel Peace Laureate have emerged. He is said to have stayed at the democracy leader's house for 2 days after swimming across Inya Lake near her home, before attempting to escape across the lake again, where he was apparently arrested.

This bizarre incident looks to be a characteristically surreal set-up.

Even though the intruder's antics may not amount to much -- and were obviously undertaken without Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's knowledge -- they provide an opportunity for the Burmese generals to use it as an excuse to continue detaining her.

The NCGUB is constituted by representatives elected in the 1990 elections in Burma

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Prime Minister, Dr. Sein Win, who is also Aung San Suu Kyi's cousin, expressed grave fears for the democracy leader; "Her personal physician is not allowed to meet her and is now being detained at an undisclosed location. His assistant who checked Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was prevented from treating her last weekend. She must be given medical care immediately."

"The situation is very troubling."

"Under no circumstances must the international community tolerate the generals continuing the detention of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. It must act together and prevent injustices from continuing in our country," said Dr Sein Win.

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