Long March and Hunger Strike for Freedom and Democracy in BURMA

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Day 11 September 11, 2004 (Eleventh Day)

The three Freedom and Democracy in Burma activists completed an additional 10 miles on the eleventh day of their journey to the United Nations in New York City.

The day's journey began in the morning. The marchers left Milton, New York at 8:45 AM and ended their march at approximately 3:00 PM. They finished earlier than usual in order to attend a commemoration and vigil for September 11th. Once the three activists arrive at the United Nations in New York they will begin a hunger strike. Nevertheless, the activists are using all their might to complete their journey for the people of Burma.

One of the primary marchers, U Maung Maung Tate had difficulty in walking due to leg pains. Even so, he managed to cover the entire segment of the journey that the group had planned the night before.

On behalf of the marchers, U Han Lin proclaimed that the marchers would proceed with the planned campaign no matter how many obstacles or challenges arise as the journey continues.

He further added that this Long March and Hunger Strike campaign is a form of speaking out for the voiceless people of Burma, people who have suffered under a repressive regime for years. As the campaign moves on, it is more crucial than ever for the marchers to carry themselves with strength and resolve in order to bring the plight of the people of Burma to the forefront of the international community at the United Nations.

In the evening, the marchers participated in a Commemoration and Prayer for the September 11th Ceremony in Cottekill, New York from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Ms. Manna Jo Greene, Environmental Director of the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, organized the ceremony, and a prayer for the people of Burma was also included.

The Long Freedom March activists received letters of support and encouragement from the Democratic Burmese Society of Utica, New York, and from the National League for Democracy (Liberated Areas). The activists appreciate all of the goodwill received through letters, in person, and in the form of donations.

Activists learned that Venerable Jun Yasuda and U Win Khet, the chairperson of National League for Democracy (Liberated Areas) would participate in the long march the next day. Additionally, the National League for Democracy (Liberated Areas) has formed a supporting committee for the march.

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Note: For those who are unable to support the Freedom "Long March" activists in person, e-mails of encouragement and support can be sent to **freedomlongmarch@aol.com**
Please visit **http://longmarchandhungerstrike.odfb.org**

For more information please contact:

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