

## **Long March and Hunger Strike in New York for Freedom and Democracy in Burma**

### **3 September 2004 (Third Day)**

United States activists for freedom and democracy in Burma began the third day of their journey 12 miles North of Albany, near a bridge where they had finished the previous day's march. The activists marched westward along Route 2 for 5 miles and then merged onto Route 9 heading South. In the afternoon they stopped to rest at Newtonville. At around 2 PM, a Japanese Buddhist nun, Venerable Jun Yasuda met with the activists and presented them with lists of missionaries and churches that would be welcoming them during the course of their journey.

The end of the third day was marked by closing prayers at 6 PM, led by Venerable Jun Yasuda. During the day, local residents cheered for the marchers by honking their car horns, waving their hands in support, and by slowing down to give the marchers words of encouragement. The third day of "Long March" for freedom and democracy in Burma was joined by the following freedom loving people.

Ko Moe Min (Overseas Karen Refugees Social Organization, Buffalo, New York)

Ko Saw Ku (Overseas Karen Refugees Social Organization, Buffalo, New York)

Ko Win Tin (All Burma Students' Democratic Front, Former member, Buffalo, New York)

On the fourth day of the "Long March" Ms. Kimberlyn David, a journalist from the Ithaca Times, will join the marchers. She will be walking alongside the activists to cover the "Long March" campaign. In addition, Karen and Rakhaing ethnic groups from the New York upstate area as well as other Burmese democratic forces will also take part in the march to support of freedom and democracy in Burma.

### **4 September 2004 (Fourth Day)**

The activists commenced their fourth day's journey at 12:05 PM. The following Burmese democratic forces from Utica, New York joined the activists at around 2:45 PM:



U Pyinyar Nanda

U Man Thaug Tin

U Htay Lwin Oo

U Soe Htut

In the evening, Fox 23 and Capital News 9, two Albany region news stations, arrived to cover the "Long March" campaign. The fourth day ended at approximately at 7:30 PM.

## 5 September 2004 (Fifth Day)

Beginning in the morning at around 8 AM, journalist Ms. Kimberlyn David from the Ithaca Times joined the freedom and democracy activists U Han Lin, Ko Win Shwe and Ko Maung Maung Tate. Ms. David stayed with the activists until their last rest stop for the day at an Ithaca monastery. During the course of the day, she marched along with the activists, speaking to participants and interviewing activists.



At approximately 11:00 AM, U Pyinyar, U Win Naing, Ko Latt, Ma Htay Thwe, Maung Phyo Aung (6 years of age), Ko Aye Than, Ma Cho (an expecting mother with a baby due imminently), Ma Hnin Wai Phyo (9 years of age), Ma Sapae Phyo (11 months of age), Ko Soe Paing, Ma Chaw Su, Maung Soe Moe Oo (6 years of age), Ma Zu Zu (4 years of age), Ko Win Aung, Ko Aung Win, Ko Soe Yarza Htun and Ko Tint Zaw from Utica, New York joined the activists for the march.

Ms. Leigh Hornbeck of the Times Union Newspaper (an Albany, New York area newspaper) arrived to cover the campaign at around 2:30 PM. At around the same time, New York City participants and Ko Aung Kyaw Myint from Ithaca, New York joined the activists for the march. After having marched miles on New York State Route 9W, the fifth day of the “Long March” ended successfully at 7:30 PM.



Ko Annand  
Ma Nang Sun Nun  
Ko Aung Lwin  
Ko Nyan Win Lett  
Mr. David Riffle  
Ma Sandi  
Ma Kay Khine  
Ko Ye Htut  
Ko Moe Chan  
Ma Zorm  
Ma Nang Moe

During the course of the march, the activists learned that Venerable Jun Yasuda and a Karen group from Utica, New York would be joining the activists to participate in the sixth day of the “Long March.”

For more information please contact:

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