



American Federation
of Teachers, AFL-CIO

AFT Teachers
AFT PSRP
AFT Higher Education
AFT Public Employees
AFT Healthcare

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May 27, 2005

General Than Shwe, Chairman
State Peace and Development Council
c/o Ministry of Defense
Signal Pagoda Road
Yangon
Burma

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the 1.3 million members of the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, I am writing to express our horror and outrage at the murder of Ko Moe Naung, a Seafarer's Union of Burma organizer.

We have been informed that Ko Moe was arrested at his residence in Ranong and was brought to an army base in Kawthaung, where he was tortured to death during interrogation by members of your armed forces. This demands an immediate, impartial investigation conducted by a neutral source from outside Burma.

It is our understanding that Ko Moe was targeted by your regime because of his work organizing Burmese fishermen and migrant workers in the Ranong region.

This murder is one more indication of the harsh brutality existing under your regime, a brutality which we have seen directly through our work with teachers, unionists and human rights activists in your country. Let me once again express our abhorrence of the violations of human and worker's rights that your regime practices on a daily basis.

We intend to continue to stand with our brothers and sisters in Burma as they seek to live and work in a society that is free and democratic. We will do all that we can to help them in their efforts to bring forth a brighter future for the people of Burma.

Sincerely,

Edward J. McElroy
President

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cc: David Crockett, International Transport Workers' Federation