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Local and foreign journalists were taken to several areas in northern Rakhine where villagers were attacked by terrorists recently. The 18-member journalists will end their five-day visit today. **PHOTO: MNA**

Independent journalists visit troubled areas in Maungtaw

Myanmar and foreign journalists visited troubled areas in northern Rakhine yesterday, where people were attacked by armed attackers.

The independent journalists were taken to several areas including Maung-hnama Village, Yinma Chaung Taung Village and Kyar Gaung Taung

Village.

They were taken to Kyar Gaung Taung, one of three settlements requested by the journalists. More than 50 villagers

from the village were arrested on suspicion of involvement in violent attacks in November last year.

SEE PAGE-2

Three dead, one hurt in IED explosion in Maungtaw Tsp

An IED suspected to be planted by terrorists exploded between Pyaung Pike Village and Nga Sar Kyuu Village in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State yesterday morning, killing three people and injuring one.

The explosion occurred while four men were resting on a hill after working on a farm

at the foot of the hill. Security forces immediately went to the area and found Swe Yauk Dula dead and Pe Yan, Oosman and Kiman Hussun injured. The

three injured were transported to Maungtaw hospital for treatment where Pe Yan and Oosman later succumbed to their injuries.—Myanmar News Agency■

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SUNDAY SPECIAL

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

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Ms. Yanghee Lee arrives back to Yangon from Lashio

MS. YANGHEE LEE, Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar arrived back to Yangon by air from Lashio yesterday.

Earlier in the morning, she met with officials of UN organizations and civil society organisations at Golden Hill Hotel, Lashio.

Later in the afternoon, she paid homage to Thiri Mingalar Mansu Shan Monastery Sayadaw and donated offertories after which she left for Yangon by air.

—IPRD ■



Ms Yanghee Lee leaves Lashio for Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

Eight arrested in Yathedaung Township on suspicion of terrorist links

SECURITY forces recently arrested a terrorist suspect and seven others suspected of being linked to terrorists in Yathedaung Township it is learnt.

Based on information received on individuals who may have associations with terrorists, attended terrorist training or participated in terrorist acts, security forces arrested Mahmot Norul in Chin Village, Yathedaung Township on the

morning of 11 July. He was interrogated in Nyaung Chaung Police Station and a case was opened against him on 13 July in Zedipyin Police Station. An investigation revealed another terrorist suspect, Mawni Rahmok of Chin Village, who was arrested together with seven men suspected of links to terrorists on the morning of 14 July. Investigations into all the suspects continue.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Gov't prepares to counter flooding

NATIONAL Natural Disaster Management Committee Vice-Chairman and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye met with Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung yesterday morning at the Mandalay Region government office in Mandalay to discuss flooding in the Mandalay region last year and preparation for this year, where there will be cooperation between Union and regional governments in the prevention, response and reconstruction to natural disasters.

Next, the Union Minister provided Ks11 million to the Chief Minister to purchase five fiberglass motorboats for use in disaster management works

and for safe transport of basic education school teachers and students of Patheingyi Township during the rainy season.

The Union Minister then visited Gaw Wein Jetty in Mahaaungmyay Township to view the water inflow situation in the rainy season and went on to Nyaungzin village, Hanthawaddy village tract, Tada-U Township to inspect the preparation of sandbags for preventing the overflowing of Dotawadi River and coordinated long term arrangements. Afterward, the Union Minister visited the old city area in Sinkyone Village, Meethwetike Village Tract, Tada-U Township, where flood waters were flowing. The Union Minister coordinated on restoring the old city wall without affecting the

historic architecture. The old city area is a place of frequent flooding during every rainy season. In the afternoon, the Union Minister visited a drug addicts rehabilitation centre in Mandalay and discussed in detail with officials on upgrading the work of the centre in cooperation with the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation so that the centre could become a model rehabilitation centre.

The Union Minister then met with officials of the Byamso Social Association, Chanmyathitsa, Chanthukha, 36 Parahita and Seinpan Ward social associations to discuss cooperation among government, townspeople and social associations in preparing and responding to natural disasters.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Maungtaw markets again bustling with shoppers

DESPITE the existence of a curfew instituted after the violent attacks of October 2016, the security situation in Maungtaw town seems to be returning to normal, with the markets in Maungtaw crowded with shoppers and sellers until early in the evening.

Government offices, schools, hospitals, clinics, markets, banks as well as private shops selling various items, barber shops, tailors and tea shops operating normally.

Three border police outposts were attacked by terrorists in October 2016, resulting

in the deaths of nine border policemen and months of security clearance operations.

Due to tightened security immediately after the terrorist incident, the shops were allowed to operate only in the morning, but are now open the whole day with a 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew.

Transport and communication between Maungtaw and Buthidaung has also improved with more buses and cars carrying people and goods while travel to nearby villages with motorcycles and motor tricycles had also increased.—Myint Maung Soe, Aung Kyaw Oo ■

Independent journalists visit troubled areas...

FROM PAGE-1

The 18-Myanmar nationals and foreigners will end their five-day visit today.

They arrived in Rakhine State on 12 July, with a pledge

from the government not to impose any restrictions on the reporters visiting the troubled areas that have been the site of violence since October.

“There are no restrictions

regarding the areas that you can report from,” said U Thet Swe, a director of the Ministry of Information, to the reporters at the beginning of the trip.—

GNLM ■

Transport Co eyes Myanmar links

TRANSPORT CO, Thailand's state-owned public interprovincial bus service provider, plans to expand its routes to link Myanmar and India, according to the Bangkok Post.

Managing director Jirasak Yaowatchasakul said the plan was part of the company's bid

to expand to Asean, especially Myanmar, where tourism was booming, according to a Manager Online report.

The planned route will link Thailand with Myanmar and India – from Mae Sot in Tak province to Myawady and India's border town of Morey, the Bangkok

Post reported yesterday.

Vietnam is also on the company's radar, with the planned route running from Hue to Danang. In the South, it hopes to operate from southern provinces to Malaysia and perhaps to Singapore. “New services will need to be approved by third countries.

Safety will be a major factor in the consideration as some countries have minority groups. We're now discussing the plans with the Land Transport Department before sending them to the Foreign Ministry and the Transport Ministry for approval,” he said.

Some 15%, or 187 million

baht, of the company's 3.7-billion-baht revenue comes from services linked with neighbouring countries, with Laos being the largest market. Transport Co now has 15 routes linking to neighbouring countries, 13 of which are connected to Laos.—Bangkok Post and GNLM ■



Maungtaw Market. PHOTO: THAKKA

Complement of true scientific internationalism

Every nation in the world being a conglomeration of races and religions should develop such a nationalism as is compatible with the welfare of one and all, irrespective of race or religion or class or sex. This is my nationalism and I believe that such a nationalism is but a complement of true scientific internationalism.

(Excerpt from the address made at the meeting of the Anglo-Burman Council at the City Hall, Rangoon, on December 8, 1946)



Vice President U Henry Van Thio attends Shwe Nantha fair-cost housing estate opening ceremony

VICE President U Henry Van Thio attended the opening ceremony of the Shwe Nantha fair-cost housing estate held in Oat-tara Thiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. Union Constitutional Tribunal Chairman U Myo Nyunt, Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein, Union Ministers U Ohn Win, Dr Than Myint, U Ohn Maung, U Naing Thet Lwin, Union Auditor General U Maw Than, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Myo Aung, Deputy Ministers Dr Tun Naing and U Kyaw Lin, Hluttaw representatives, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council and officials were also present on this occasion.

The Vice President, Union Minister for Construction U Win Khaing and Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony in front of the estate to inaugurate the event. The Vice President then pressed a button to unveil the commemorative plaque of the housing estate and sprinkled scented waters on it.

Union Minister for Construc-



Vice President U Henry Van Thio opens the Shwe Nantha fair-cost housing estate. PHOTO:MNA

tion U Win Khaing then gave a welcoming speech and Urban and Housing Development Department Director-General U Min Htein explained the details of Shwe Nantha Fair-cost Housing Estate. Afterwards, the Vice President and party toured the housing estate.

Construction of the fair-cost housing buildings were started in June 2016 and completed in December 2016. The buildings are

five-storey reinforced concrete and five-storey steel structures measuring 100 ft by 47 ft. Each building contains 40 20 ft x20 ft apartments. The Shwe Nantha Housing estate contains 22 low-cost and fair-cost housing buildings consisting of eight five-storey buildings with eight apartment units per storey, 12 four-storey buildings with four apartment units per storey and two three-storey buildings with

six apartment units. In the Shwe Nantha fair-cost housing complex, the apartment prices are set at Ks13.5 million for a ground floor unit, Ks12.5 million for a first floor unit, Ks12 million for a second floor unit, Ks11.5 million for a third floor unit and Ks11 million for a fourth floor unit. Down payment is 30 per cent and the remaining 70 per cent is to be paid in a long-term yearly payments.

The Ministry of Construc-

tion is implementing this housing project to develop urban sector housing, resolve urbanization problems, create pleasant urban scenery and opportunities for local and foreign investments, establish a town that is disaster resistant and sustainable, and provide appropriate housing and socio-economic development for the people.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister for Information meets IDPs in Myitkyina



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint inspects the Sub-printing House of the News and Periodicals Enterprise. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint arrived at Myitkyina Airport, Kachin State yesterday morning and met with State Chief Minister Dr Khet Aung and state ministers in the airport hall and discussed cooperative works between the Ministry of Information and the Kachin State government.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister and party together with the Kachin State minister for municipal affairs went to camp for internally displaced persons in the Kachin Baptist church compound at Tatcone Ward, Myitkyina and

met with families staying in the camp. The families in the camp were provided with rice, cooking oil, school books and stationery by the Union Minister, bags of rice and cooking oil by the state minister for municipal affairs U Nay Win, T-shirts with peace logos by the songwriter Naung Naung (Sunflower) on behalf of peace music festival members, foodstuff by Premier family and cooking oil, dried fish and foodstuff by the Myanmar Kyalsinlin Company. A family member in return gave words of thanks. Afterward, the Union Minister and party toured

the living areas of the families in the camp.

Later, the Union Minister and party inspected works underway in a sub-printing house of the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Myanmar Radio and Television broadcasting sub-station and a community centre building in Myitkyina and provided necessary instruction to officials. The opening ceremony for the community centre will be jointly conducted by the Information and Public Relations Department and the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation. —State IPRD ■

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Reduced down payment for low-cost housing

Ko Moe

Arrangements are being made to reduce the down payment and provide long-term loans for buyers of low-cost apartments, said the Construction and Housing Development Bank.

The Construction and Housing Development Bank has begun offering housing savings accounts on 1 August 2016, and now has over 10,000 account holders. This is to construct affordable housing project in areas like Dagon Seikkan Township in order to fulfill the needs of homeless citizens.

The Shwe Lin Pann low-cost housing project was constructed together with the Department of Urban and Housing Development as a pilot project.

The Union Government and related regional governments are discussing ways to reduce the down payment to 20 per cent and increase loan periods from 20 to 30 years.

The Yangon Regional



The Low-cost housing is under construction in Dagon Seikkan Township. **PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE**

Government is planning to construct low-cost apartments together with other related departments as well as the Ministry of Construction. The plan is to construct low-cost housing priced under Ks10 million within two years by inviting private

construction entrepreneurs, said Daw Nilar Kyaw, Yangon Region Minister of Electricity, Industry, Transport and Communication.

Low-cost housing projects are also being implemented in Hlinethayar and Thanlyin town-

ships.

In addition, the Ministries of Planning and Finance and Construction were also constructing low-cost housing for pensioner, public servants and low income communities all over the country. —GNLM ■

Almost 20,000 tonnes of maize went to China from border trade camps

MYANMAR exported nearly 20,000 tonnes of maize to China through land border ports of entry in the last week of June, according to border trade authorities.

Between 24 and 30 June of this year, the country sold a total of 19,428 tonnes of maize to its largest trade partner via the Muse, Lwejel and

Chinshwehaw trade stations — 13,850 tonnes from Muse, over 5,000 tonnes from Lwejel and 552 tonnes from Chinshwehaw.

The current figures are 1,600 tonnes more than that of the previous week.

In the third week of June, a total of 17,825 tonnes of maize were sold to the world's

most populous country.

Last month, corn weighing more than 55,000 tonnes was exported to the neighbouring country from those points of entry.

According to figures released by border trade camps, one tonne of corn was also sent to Thailand through the Tachilek border point.

Wholesalers in Muse say corn was sold for Ks258,824 per tonne in late June, including transportation charges of Ks56-64 per viss (one viss is equivalent to approximately 3.6 pounds).

More than 600 trucks loaded with maize entered the Muse market between 24 June and 30 June.—Swe Nyein ■

Imports with ITCs at borders reaches Ks9.4 billion

THE import value of border trade using the Individual Trading Card (ITC) topped Ks9.45 billion in the current fiscal year, while export earnings reached about Ks600 million, according to official figures released by the Ministry of Commerce this week.

Imports with ITCs as of 30 June amounted to more than Ks8 billion in Thailand-Myanmar

border camps, over Ks7 billion in Sino-Myanmar borders and Ks245 million in India-Myanmar ports of entry. There were no border trade deals with Bangladesh between April and June.

Over the first three months of this FY, the trade value of border trade with the use of the ITCs amounted to more than Ks10 billion in total.

Of the total border ports of entry, the Myawady trade camp on the border with Thailand was reported to have the largest trade with a value of over Ks7.75 billion, followed by Kanpikete with Ks703m, Tachilek with Ks479m, Mawtaung with Ks387m, Tamu with Ks288m, Reed with Ks157m and Kawthaung with Ks148m.

Exports and imports through the Lwejel and Kengtung cross-border entries totalled less than Ks60 million, while trade via the Muse and Chinshwehaw border stations was no more than Ks7 million.

The overall value of border trade with ITCs last fiscal year was Ks18.972 billion.—Shwe Khine ■



Over 200 hotel rooms to be added in Myeik Archipelago for coming high season

“For the time being, the arrival of visitors to the region has decreased this monsoon because of weather conditions. The number of visitors from

U Hsan Myint, deputy director-general of Myanmar Investment Commission, said; "The MIC directly monitors all permitted enterprises within the country, making field trips to project areas in partnership

To protect the natural environment of the region, the ministry has issued dos and don'ts for visitors, including good waste management and safety plans, U Hlwan Moe explained, adding that visitors are required to use local guides for sea trips. Visitors are been banned from touching natural coral reefs and taking the shells of sea snails. ■

MIC approved 27 foreign direct investments (FDIs) 14 in industrial sectors, two in transport and telecoms sectors, one in the livestock and fishery sector, seven in services sectors and one in agricultural sectors. Total FDI reached US\$916 million, creating 7,155 employment opportunities for locals.— May Thet Hnin ■

[illegible]

Indonesia blocks Telegram messaging service over security concerns

JAKARTA — Indonesia on Friday blocked access to the encrypted messaging service Telegram, citing concerns that it was being used to spread “radical and terrorist propaganda” in the world’s largest Muslim-majority nation.

The move comes amid heightened concerns over the growing presence and influence of Islamic State in Southeast Asia as the jihadist group loses territory in Syria and Iraq.

Indonesia itself has seen a resurgence in home-grown militancy, inspired in large part by Islamic State; a twin suicide bombing at a Jakarta bus station in May killed three police officers and injured several others. It has stepped up anti-terrorism cooperation with Malaysia and the Philippines.

“This has to be done because there are many channels on this service that are full of radical and terrorist propaganda, hatred, ways to make bombs, how to carry out attacks, disturbing images, which are



Two men pose with smartphones in front of a screen showing the Telegram logo in this picture illustration taken in Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, in 2015. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

all in conflict with Indonesian law,” the communications ministry said in a statement on its website.

Telegram is a messaging platform known to be popular

among Islamic State sympathizers, who use chatrooms with hundreds of members as well as private conversations.

The communications ministry added that both the mo-

bile application and the desktop version of Telegram would be blocked throughout Indonesia. It did not say if it would take similar action against other messaging platforms.

Telegram was not immediately available for comment.

Many messaging apps such as Whatsapp and Telegram offer end-to-end encryption from sender to recipient, which means not even the companies providing the platform can see the messages.

Security officials in several countries have complained that the apps provide a safe space for militants to communicate with each other. Several governments, including those of Australia and Britain, have urged technology companies to do more to help security agencies thwart security threats.

In March, an attacker on London’s Westminster Bridge was reported to have sent encrypted messages moments before ploughing his car into pedestrians, killing four people, and fatally stabbing a police officer.

British interior minister Amber Rudd said at the time that such encryption was “unacceptable”. —Reuters ■

Three injured in fire in central Tokyo

TOKYO — A fire broke out in an apartment building in Tokyo’s central district of Akasaka early Saturday, injuring three men, firefighters said.

The three are all conscious, with their injuries not life-threatening, they said. The blaze was extinguished after a unit on the third floor of the building, which has 10 floors above ground and one underground, caught fire shortly past midnight.

The scene is about 500 meters southwest of Akasaka Station of the Tokyo Metro, a major subway operator in central Tokyo. The area is densely built-up with apartments, commercial facilities and multipurpose buildings.—Kyodo News ■

Japan’s major airlines to toughen explosive checks from Tuesday

TOKYO — Major Japanese carriers will start randomly checking passengers’ electronic devices for explosives before they board aircraft, responding to a US request to enhance aviation security to counter terrorism, airport sources said Friday.

The new measure will be taken from Tuesday, likely affecting Tokyo’s Haneda airport and Narita airport near the capital as well as five other airports in the country that have direct flights to the United States. The implementation could cause flight de-

lays as many passengers may be unaware of the new policy.

The random screening will be conducted on electronic devices passengers have as carry-on items, such as personal computers, tablet computers, electronic book readers and cameras, the sources said. Cell phones and smartphones are exempt from the checks. The screening will use special checking devices as the US government has called for the use of so-called Explosive Trace Detectors, which can detect traces of explosives by wip-

ing on electronic devices. The checks will likely be conducted at departure gates, rather than security check areas, as the United States is calling for passengers who are already screened not to be allowed to mingle with those who are boarding other flights.

According to Japan’s Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the five other airports that have direct flights to the United States are New Chitose, Sendai, Chubu, Kansai and Fukuoka.

In late June, the United

States unveiled its enhanced security measures that will affect US-bound commercial flights through expanded screening of passengers and their carry-on electronic devices at departing airports.

The US Department of Homeland Security has expressed concerns that terrorists are improving their methods to plant explosives in electronic devices. It claims an explosives-laden laptop was used in a terrorism case in Somalia in February 2016.—Kyodo News ■

Five die in heavy rains in western India

NEW DELHI — At least five people have died in heavy rains in the western Indian state of Gujarat in the past 24 hours, officials said Saturday.

“Heavy rains have been lashing the state since Friday. Five persons have died in the state’s Saurashtra region, one each in districts and cities such as Surendrnagar, Rajkot, Aravali,

Gandhinagar and Banaskantha,” a senior disaster management official said.

More than 2,000 people have been rescued from low-lying areas in the region and shifted to safer locations, he added.

State Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has called a high-level meeting to ensure that emergency services are on the alert as

rains are not showing any immediate signs of ebbing. “The Chief Minister is personally taking stock of the situation,” a government official said.

Local TV channels reported that additional disaster management teams have been dispatched to the state to help those affected by rains and also showed footage of some rivers flowing

near the danger mark.

Gujarat is not the only Indian state affected by monsoon rains.

India’s northeastern region, particularly the state of Assam, has also been highly affected by heavy rains and so far more than 85 people have died there in nearly nine days of showers, according to the central government.—Xinhua ■

Calls for law change after Indians left in dark over data leaks

MUMBAI — Fears Indian telecom upstart Reliance Jio suffered a major data breach, compromising the personal data of over 100 million customers, have prompted calls for India to adopt more robust laws to protect consumers.

Jio has repeatedly denied any breach took place and said that names, telephone numbers and email addresses of Jio users on a website called “Magicapk” appeared to be “unauthentic.” The website was later shut down.

The company, part of conglomerate Reliance Industries Ltd, said on Monday that its subscriber data was safe and protected by the highest levels of security.

However, Jio filed a complaint the same day alleging unlawful access to its systems, police have told Reuters.

Jio did not respond to requests for comment.

In contrast to companies in the European Union, which has



A woman checks her mobile phone as she walks past a mobile store of Reliance Industries' Jio telecoms unit, in Mumbai, India, on 11 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

stringent data protection standards, companies in India do not have to disclose data breaches to clients, information security professionals said.

“It raises questions of security and accountability,” said Pranesh Prakash, policy director at the Centre for Internet and Society (CIS), a research

organisation.

People complained on Twitter about personal information of Jio users being available on the Magicapk site. Several local

news outlets said their checks had led them to believe a leak had occurred.

“A rule to report breaches exists, but it is unenforceable,” says Prakash. “It says you’re not liable if you’re following reasonable security practices. What ‘reasonable’ means is not defined.”

Advocates of stronger laws in India say a data breach in countries with more stringent cyber laws, such as Britain or the United States, would prompt an inquiry by regulators.

After reports of a data leak at Verizon earlier this week, for example, the US telecoms firm quickly responded with an explanation of what had occurred, how it had happened and the extent of the problem.

“India is at a nascent stage. For good norms in Asia, look to Singapore. It’s been praised for not having cyber security issues by the UN,” Srinivas Kodali, an independent security researcher, said.—Reuters ■

North Korea may have more nuclear bomb material than thought — US think tank

WASHINGTON — Thermal images of North Korea’s main nuclear site show Pyongyang may have reprocessed more plutonium than previously thought that can be used to enlarge its nuclear weapons stockpile, a US think tank said on Friday.

The analysis by 38 North, a Washington-based North Korean monitoring project, was based on satellite images of the radiochemical laboratory at the Yongbyon nuclear plant from September until the end of June, amid rising international concerns over North Korea’s nuclear and missile programmes.

The think tank said images of the uranium enrichment facility at Yongbyon could also indicate operation of centrifuges that could be used to increase North Korea’s stock of enriched uranium, its other source of bomb fuel.

There were signs too of at least short-term activity at North Korea’s Experimental Light Water Reactor that could be cause for concern, 38 North said.

The images of the radiochemical laboratory showed there had been at least two re-processing cycles not previously

known aimed at producing “an undetermined amount of plutonium that can further increase North Korea’s nuclear weapons stockpile,” something that would worry US officials who see Pyongyang as one of the world’s top security threats.

It was unclear if the thermal activity detected at the uranium plant was the result of centrifuge operations or maintenance.

It said the thermal patterns at the plant’s isotope/tritium pro-

duction facility suggested it was not operational and was therefore not producing tritium, an essential isotope used in boosted yield and hydrogen weapons.

North Korea manufactures atomic bombs using uranium and plutonium and has tested five nuclear bombs. Officials and experts say it could test a sixth at any time, despite US-led international efforts to curb its programme.

Pyongyang said its penulti-

mate test in January 2016 was of a hydrogen bomb, something experts have treated with scepticism.

North Korea has been working to develop a nuclear-tipped missile capable of hitting the United States and last week tested its first intercontinental ballistic missile, which experts said could hit all of Alaska and parts of the US Pacific Northwest. Frustrated that China, North Korea’s main trading partner, has not done more to rein in Pyongyang, the Trump administration could impose new sanctions on small Chinese banks and other companies doing business with Pyongyang within weeks, two senior US officials told Reuters this week.

US ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley has been seeking to overcome resistance from China and Russia to a UN Security Council resolution imposing stiffer international sanctions on Pyongyang.

Experts at 38 North estimated in April that North Korea could have as many as 20 nuclear bombs and could produce one more each month.—Reuters ■



A satellite image of the radiochemical laboratory at the Yongbyon nuclear plant in North Korea by Airbus Defence & Space and 38 North released on 14 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

One killed, two injured as wooden boats catch fire in Central Java of Indonesia

JAKARTA — About 17 wooden boats caught fire at a river in Pati district of Indonesia’s Central Java province on Saturday, leaving one person dead and two others wounded, a senior official of disaster agency said.

Firefighters and water canon trucks were hampered to enter the location of the incident due to difficult access to the scene, spokesman of national disaster management agency Sutopo Purwo Nugroho told Xinhua in a text message.

The incidents hitting the sailor ships started at 13:50 local time at Juwana port in Kenongo river, the spokesman said.

Efforts to separate the 17 boats from the other ones are still underway, he added.—Xinhua

Work together for disaster preparedness

By Aye Min Soe

MONSOONS and torrential rain is common in Myanmar during its long rainy season, which begins in mid-June and continues into October.

The near-constant rainfall swells the country's waterways, with the Ayeyawady River, the country's longest and largest, causing widespread flooding and landslides down-

stream.

In June, the overflow from the Uru River submerged low-lying areas. Several other rivers, including the Chindwin and the Ayeyawady, have reached dangerously high levels in some towns. They need careful monitoring.

As part of disaster preparedness, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat

Aye is currently visiting central Myanmar, holding talks with local authorities and assisting in preparedness tasks.

Some areas in central Myanmar are especially flood prone, especially in Chin and Shan States and the Taninthayi Region, which experienced rain-induced landslides.

Reviewing our past experiences and current preparedness measures

against disasters can reduce the loss of life and property and are helpful in providing quick responses to the disasters.

Preparation is the key, and also effective communication. We should not forget the importance of the quick dissemination of weather information and disaster awareness among the people in order to reduce the disaster risks. ■

Memoir about Bogoyoke Aung San Recounted by A Veteran in Struggle for Independence

By Dr Kyaw Kyaw Min

WE have already known that Bogoyoke Aung San, our national leader is the person of great virtues and he is endowed with the characteristics of a great leader.

In the explanation about leadership qualities in the book titled, "The Path to Leadership," written by Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery, it is written that honesty, strengthened morals, courage in action, enthusiasm, zeal, ability to solve problems and astuteness at being well convinced of human's nature are leadership qualities. These are the qualities of national and political leaders.

Bogoyoke Aung San is not only a national leader-cum-political leader but also a military leader; thus he was endowed with virtues of a soldier as written by Field Marshall Montgomery. Obedience or performing duties assigned by superiors perfunctorily, enthusiasm and zealous effort, freedom from immoral ideas, esprit de corps—these virtues of a great soldier can be seen vividly in Bogoyoke.

We firmly believe that experiences recounted by grandpa U Sein Pe highlighted that Bogoyoke was our ideal of esprit de corps and lack of opportunism. U Sein Pe born in Pyin Sar village, Pyin Oo Lwin township is now 92 years old. Wonderfully enough, he is still healthy and active enough to

recount what he experienced in his youth, in spite of his advancing years.

As he had started his learning only in his mid-twenties, the grandpa had to attend at a special class, where he had ever listened to 10 standard-class-teacher Bo Khin Maung Lay come to make a political lecture. Afterwards, he frequently visited Doh Bamar Asiayone, May Myo, still remembering U Pyan was the then chairman of the Asiayone. One day, BIA (Burma Independence Army) came to the Asiayone for the recruitment of new members. Then he joined BIA under the name of Myo Myint. Being sent to Pyinmana, he served under Bo Tun Pe, then to Shangan under Bo Lun Tin. Three months after joining BIA, It was abolished, becoming BDA (Burma Defence Army). At Shangan, he was accommodated at the down-stair of duplex 5-unit apartment. Bo Tun Tin and grandpa lived in a room each, separately at the front part of the first floor, whereas the security section resided at the rear part. Bogoyoke and his spouse did live at the up-stair. Then, Bogoyoke was said to have been married just 3 months ago.

He mournfully and proudly recounted one of his reminiscences about Bogoyoke, "Presently, none but me survived who had ever heard Bogoyoke sing. Bogoyoke used to sing the first part of a duet, named "Thet Wai/ My Darling" com-

posed by Sayar Myoma Nyein:

"Pole Star falls on to Earth
In the sky, Sun and Stars
disappear

Landslide of Mount Meru
to nothingness

Even in the midst of these
events

Never feel betrayed about
my fondness"

Apart from that piece, he never proceeded to sing. It was said to have been sung with the intention of making his return known to his wife. Sometimes, he came into, calling "Kyi, Kyi, Kyi." When his better-half asked why he shouted such a call, Bogoyoke's only answer was, "I do it as I love you."

One day, while Bogoyoke was reading sitting in an easy chair at the down-stair, grandpa U Sein Pe returned home from outside, entering the house after putting off his shoes hurriedly, with one piece of the pair left behind. At that time, grandpa did not yet attend any military training courses. He put an army uniform, shirt on the upper part, wearing a longyi and slippers at feet. Seemingly he noticed me and my happening, he called me, summoning the other two from the rear part except a soldier taking the sentry duty and explained to us, the importance of discipline.

"Have you ever heard the saying Myanmar lost its throne/ sovereignty due to lack of keeping discipline?" Bogoyoke asked.

"Yes, we had ever heard



our superiors say," we replied.

"Of course, King Thibaw was easily taken away by the British because of lack of unity among Myanmar people and failure to keep disciplines. There was no unity within the circle of the royal court as well as the outside world. The British ruled our country under the system, "Divide and Rule," reigning the nation dividing into main-land and hilly regions. In Shan State, only section 10 was applied. Cases of theft, robbery, cheating, rape and all kinds of crimes were arrested under section 10. Those who would like to be arrested were seized, while those wanting to be freed were

released. So, it was an unfair law," Bogoyoke said.

Bogoyoke added, "In the main land, on the contrary, a police-man had to find 3 crime cases every month. Failing that, he was granted freedom from taking actions for first two times. For the third time he had to be fired. In Scotland, the official in authority whose jurisdiction was free from crimes would be promoted. So as to be free from such a kind of governing a country, to be exact, to be free from ruling the country under "divide and rule" system by dividing into mainland and hilly regions, we urgently need Independence.

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Sri Lanka secures rice stocks from Myanmar and Pakistan

THE four-man Lankan team of officials that flew to Pakistan and Myanmar to select rice tranche, returned to Colombo yesterday, according to official source from Sri Lanka.

It was reported that no less than 55,000 MT rice has been made available to Sri Lanka immediately by both Pakistan and Myanmar.

Sri Lankan Minister of Industry and Commerce Rishad Bathiudeen, whose team of officials took off on 7 July to Paki-

stan and Myanmar, praised the team's success. "After this successful tour, it is clear that there will be no more rice shortages in the domestic markets-or even any likelihood of it. Some elements in the market are trying to create an artificial shortage," Minister Bathiudeen said.

Myanmar is ready to supply another 30,000 MT immediately and its final price too, is yet to be agreed.

Previously on 22 June, Minister Bathiudeen met Am-

bassador Designate of Thailand to Sri Lanka Chulamanee Chartsuwan, Ambassador of Indonesia to Sri Lanka Gusti Ngurah Ardiyasa and Acting High Commissioner of Pakistan Dr. Sarfraz Ahmad Khan Sipra at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to call for government-to-government rice supplies to Sri Lanka. All the ambassadors present pledged immediate support to Sri Lanka's efforts to procure the needed rice tranche.— GNLM ■



Workers dry rice grains under the Sun in Kangyidaunt in Ayeyawady Region. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH**

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Only if Independence is achieved, can we draw up a law suitable for the country ourselves. To gain Independence, it is not possible just by learning to know how to use a fire-arm. It is necessary for us to abide by discipline so that we can succeed. That is all I wanted to say. Now, you can go, carry on!" At the end of his saying, he went on reading.

Three months later, grandpa desirous of going to frontier areas for fighting insisted on Bo Lun Tin sending him to attend the military training school. The training period was only three months. On completion of the training, Japanese Lt General Iida and General Aung San came into the parade ground on horseback each, making speeches respectively.

At the start of the training, trainees amounted to much, but there were only 300 left at the end. At the closing ceremony, the trainees were well treated with a square meal, and provided with uniforms, two pairs of boots, a blanket, a towel and a mosquito net each.

One day, Bo Thaung Han asked me to dispatch a letter to Bogoyoke Aung San's residence at Tower Lane. On seeing a man with a mattock in his hand in front of the house, U Sein Pe asked him where Bogoyoke was, telling him that he had brought a letter to give Bogoyoke. The man bluntly replied, "I am Bogoyoke. Give me it." And he gave the letter to Bogoyoke. Being void of any uniforms on his body, U Sein Pe did not recognize Bogoyoke well, though

he had ever lived in Pynmana for 3 months together with Bogoyoke. On account of getting no words from Bogoyoke to go back, while he was waiting for Bogoyoke's order in the rear part of the house, he met with Sergeant Hla Pe, with whom he was acquainted in Pynmana.

The sergeant was found making 3 fishing rods each for 3 children of Bogoyoke, with the first one carrying nothing apart from a hook, the second one carrying a dead fish and the last one carrying with a live one attached with hook. It was intentionally made children happy and fishes were bought from the market. After that, the sergeant placed fishing rods at the side of the lake. On seeing no fish at the first hooks, they were disappointed, with at the second hooks, they were not happy at the sight of a dead fish and at the third hooks they went happy after seeing a fish attached with a hook, shouting happily and noisily.

At the time of PBF (Patriotic Burma Force)'s formation, the grandpa was hospitalized due to suffering from beriberi disease, thence his posting was transferred to May Myo Sapper Miner from Yangon Myaynigone. The then battalion commander is a British named Colonel Stat. During his service in May Myo Sapper Miner, grandpa had chances to meet Bogoyoke for two times. At the first time, Bogoyoke made a speech at the mass-rally in Nyantaw Grounds in May Myo. After the speech, the feast was set at the present State High School 1. Porcelain plates were

placed on the tables spread with table clothes. According to the plan, 4 people were to sit face to face at a table. Being borrowed from various places, tables were not same in size and height.

On a surprise inspection, Bogoyoke found cuisines in two kinds: one prepared for the guests and the other kind for special guests. Bogoyoke ordered them to mix and stir the fusion of cuisines. Besides, he told to remove table clothes and change banana leaves for porcelain plates, on the pretext that those could not be compensated if broken. On In-phet meant for *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus* leaves and banana leaves, rice and curry were piled for those present at the meeting to eat. It was said that the people amounted to nearly 80.

At the second time Bogoyoke was seen at the up-stair of the two-storeyed building (now State Primary School 4). The prepared feasts—biryani smelled sweet, arousing the taste buds of all present there. Bogoyoke climbed up-stairs from the rear stairs and climbed down from the front stairs, greeting guests and telling them to enjoy taking meal freely.

Without taking any meal prepared for him, Bogoyoke left for the house of U Than Nyunt, a parliamentarian residing at ward 6 in May Myo. He told U Than Nyunt's children to buy two dishes of Mont Hin Khar to eat together with the rice, such as it was. After taking meal at U Than Nyunt's house, he

returned.

When asked why he did not take the prepared meal, grandpa replied that Bogoyoke seemed to dislike superficial things and excessive care to him.

Bogoyoke's real spirit can be vividly seen in the article titled "The day when Bogoyoke burst out his anger," written by Bo Tayar who was a member of 30 comrades. Here, Bo Tayar's writing will be presented in brief.

One day, while Bogoyoke was in the office room, some lieutenants and the rank and file were criticizing and laughing at uniforms unloaded from a car, they were of great poor qualities and they had never put on such kinds of clothes, the texture of cloth was so coarse that they would be thought to be coolies for Japanese Army, without knowing that Bogoyoke was in there. On hearing this, Bogoyoke burst out his anger and summoned up all those in the group. Bogoyoke shouted at them all of a sudden when they came in:

"What kinds of fellow are you? I heard you all say. Tell me what and why." Bogoyoke asked. Among them one soldier ventured to disclose that they had criticized that the cloth was of great poor quality. At that time Bogoyoke shouted them, saying, "You are bull-like beings. You all are smart with the uniforms, just now. You speak too big enough not to hold in your mouths. When we fought enemies on our way from Siam up to here, you imagine what kind of clothes we wore. It does not

matter for us to fight against enemies by girding up our loins with our anatomy shown to all. You betray our fallen soldiers. You traitors! You will be fired out. You ultra-opportunists! While the majority of people did not even a meagre amount of clothing, you would like to wear fine uniforms. What is the difference between you and me? All are the same."

When they heard Bogoyoke's speech some cried and some apologized.

Here is the noteworthy word of Bogoyoke Aung San.

"Be well convinced that if people are starved, we also must be hungry and if people live in poverty we also must be poor."

Last but not least, I humbly pay great respect and congratulate our national leader Bogoyoke and his spirits which is the valuable rarity in our world. ■

Reference:

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 3. Tatmadaw History Records (1) 1942—1945 50th anniversary golden jubilee
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- Translated by Khin Maung Oo (Tada-U)*

‘Hard work starts now’ — Brexit bargaining to begin

BRUSSELS — EU officials hope the British government shows more sense of urgency about a Brexit deal when its negotiators come to Brussels on Monday for a first full round of talks aimed at smoothing Britain's departure.

“The hard work starts now,” the European Union's chief negotiator Michel Barnier said on Wednesday, again sounding a note of alarm that London has yet to provide detailed proposals on a range of key issues, with barely a year left for bargaining.

A year after the referendum vote to leave the bloc propelled her to power, Prime Minister Theresa May still faces a complex task in finding consensus at home on what kind of Brexit Britain wants — a job made all the harder by losing her parliamentary majority in an election last month.

Her Brexit minister, veteran anti-EU campaigner David Davis, is expected to meet Barnier, a French former cabinet minister, at the European Commission's Berlaymont headquarters on Monday morning.

They and their teams will then spend up to four days in a mixture of smaller working groups and plenary sessions, with the priority being to iden-



European Union's chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier addresses a news conference at the EU Commission headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, on 12 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

tify areas of accord and discord on a set of issues agreed on during an initial day of talks on 19 June.

These issues, notably the rights of expatriate citizens, how much Britain may owe to the EU budget and how to manage the new EU-UK border, especially with Ireland, are ones both sides want to settle in a withdrawal treaty. Barnier says this must be ready by

about October next year if it is to be ratified on both sides of the Channel before Britain leaves in March 2019.

“The clock is ticking,” he said on Wednesday, displaying a degree of impatience with British ministers who continue to dismiss EU demands that they first must agree in principle that London will owe the Union a hefty amount — probably in the tens of billions of

euros — to cover its existing commitments.

“The first serious test of the negotiations will be them agreeing to pay the bill,” a senior EU official said, describing the coming week as a vital moment to establish rapport among the senior civil servants who will handle what is arguably the most convoluted and far-reaching diplomatic deal of modern times. —Reuters ■

Italy drafts code on NGO migrant rescues as thousands more reach land

ROME — Italy will present a code of conduct next week to humanitarian groups that rescue migrants in the Mediterranean, a government source said on Friday, as thousands more arrived at its southern ports.

More than 4,400 migrants were due to come ashore during the day after being picked up this week in the southern Mediterranean by rescue boats belonging to European Union and Italian authorities as well as non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

The Italian government, desperately trying to stem the flow, has drafted a set of rules for NGOs operating on the edge of

Libyan territorial waters.

The 10-point code, published by Huffington Post's Italian edition and confirmed by a government source, would oblige NGOs to prove their ability to carry out rescues, and forbid them to fire flares that could prompt smugglers to push their boats out to sea. It would also oblige rescue organisations to stop transferring migrants to other ships and instead complete their disembarkation in a safe port themselves, which would limit their operations.

If any of the roughly nine NGOs that regularly deploy boats refuses to sign up, it could be barred from Italian ports, mean-

ing it would have to take the migrants to other countries.

Italy is organising a meeting with the NGOs next week to present the finalised code, the source said. After Italian and EU officials discussed the issue in Brussels on Thursday, an official said the EU Commission was worried about the risk of accidents in and around Libyan waters, and happy that Italy was working on a code.

As of 13 July, some 86,123 migrants had come to Italy this year, up 10 per cent on the same period last year, according to the interior ministry.

While NGOs have said the planned rules will make it more

difficult to help migrants fleeing poverty and war, a United Nations spokeswoman said Italy needed more help dealing with the crisis. “Basically, in Italy we need more solidarity from the rest of the European Union. In Libya we need more stability, but we also need, across all of Africa, better investment in order to help people (there),” said Carlotta Sami, spokeswoman for the United Nations refugee agency, UNHCR.

Besides 1,428 newcomers who arrived in the Sicilian port of Catania, a further 3,000 were due to arrive in the mainland ports of Salerno, Brindisi and Crotone. —Reuters ■

WORLD BRIEFS

South Korean president's approval rating stays high

SEOUL — South Korean President Moon Jae-in saw his approval rating stay at a relatively high level, a weekly survey showed Friday.

According to the Gallup Korea poll, Moon gained 80 per cent of support scores this week. It dropped 3 percentage points from the previous week, but it was much higher than his predecessors in the similar period of presidency.

The result was based on a survey of 1,004 voters conducted from Tuesday to Thursday. It had 3.1 percentage points in margin of error with a 95-per cent confidence level. —Xinhua ■

Police kill attacker of Tehran subway station

TEHRAN — Police forces shot the attacker of Tehran subway station dead on Saturday morning, Hadi Tamhidi, the governor of Shahr-e-Ray district in the south of Iran's capital Tehran, said.

On the day, a person attacked a cleric with a knife in the Shahr-e-Ray subway station and injured him. The cleric was transferred to the hospital, Tamhidi told state IRIB TV.

In the attack, another person who helped the cleric, was injured by the attacker, he said. —Xinhua ■

77 Afghan insurgents killed in 24 hours: defence ministry

KABUL — Up to 77 militants have been killed and 27 others wounded during series of operations across the insurgency-plagued Afghanistan over the past 24 hours, the country's defence ministry said in a statement released on Saturday.

“Afghan troops backed by aircrafts launched series of operations in different provinces over the past 24 hours, as a result, 77 militants including 17 Islamic States (IS) fighters have been killed, 27 injured and seven others arrested,” the statement said. —Xinhua ■



A security personnel detains the man who stabbed two German tourists to death and wounded four others during an attack at the Zahabia hotel resort in Hurghada, south of the capital Cairo, Egypt, on 14 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Two German tourists stabbed to death on Egyptian beach

CAIRO — An Egyptian man stabbed two German tourists to death and wounded four others on Friday at a popular seaside vacation spot on the Red Sea, after apparently searching out foreigners to attack, officials and witnesses said.

The knifeman killed the two German women and wounded two other tourists at the Zahabia hotel in Hurghada, then swam to a neighbouring beach to attack at least two more people at the Sunny Days El Palacio resort before being caught by staff and arrested, officials and security sources said.

It was the first major attack on foreign tourists since a similar assault on the same resort more than a year ago, and comes as Egypt struggles to revive a tourism industry hurt by security threats and years of political upheaval.

“He had a knife with him

and stabbed each of them three times in the chest. They died on the beach,” the security manager at the El Palacio hotel, Saud Abdelaziz, told Reuters.

“He jumped a wall between the hotels and swam to the other beach.”

Abdelaziz said two of the injured were Czech and two Armenian, but other officials said one of the women was Russian. They were being treated at a local hospital. The Czech Foreign Ministry tweeted that one Czech woman had sustained a minor leg injury.

The German Foreign Ministry said it had no definite information, but could not rule out that German citizens were among the victims. The German Embassy in Cairo was working closely with the authorities, a ministry spokesman said.

The attacker’s motive was still under investigation, the Interior Ministry said.

“He was looking for foreigners and he didn’t want any Egyptians,” said one member of staff at the Zahabia Hotel.

Egypt is fighting Islamist insurgents in the Sinai Peninsula, where they mainly target security forces, but militants have also attacked tourist targets in the past, as well as Coptic Christians and churches. Hurghada, some 400 km (250 miles) south of the capital Cairo, is one of Egypt’s most popular vacation spots on the Red Sea. In January 2016, two assailants armed with a gun, a knife and a suicide belt landed on the beach of a hotel in Hurghada, and wounded two foreign tourists.

Egypt has been hoping that investments in airport security and the cheaper Egyptian pound will bring tourist visits to its beaches and ancient sites back up to levels seen before its 2011 uprising.—Reuters ■

UN ends round of Syria talks with focus on fight against terrorism

GENEVA — UN Syria envoy Staffan de Mistura put the emphasis on the international fight against terrorism on Friday as he wrapped up a round of Syria peace talks at which there was “no breakthrough, no breakdown and no one walking out”.

Speaking at a news conference after briefing the UN Security Council by video, de Mistura said he felt the UN was expected to say where it stood on the fight against terrorism, which he said was “becoming the main issue being discussed at the highest possible level elsewhere.”

Discussion of terrorism has been a constant demand of the Syrian government since the series of talks began early last year, and it was added to the formal agenda earlier this year, along with talks about a new constitution, reformed governance and fresh elections.

The main opposition group, the High Negotiations Committee, wants a focus on political transition, meaning an end to the rule of President Bashar

al-Assad.

De Mistura said Assad’s negotiators had not given any indication that they were willing to discuss transition.

“But what I do believe is that what are going to be the next steps of the international community in wanting to see an acceleration of the end of this conflict may help the government to be ready to address the political process,” he said.

Although the Syrian government has repeatedly described opposition representatives as terrorists, de Mistura said he hoped to push all sides to at least sit in the same room during the next round of talks in September.

Before that can happen, the three rival opposition delegations need to narrow their differences enough to present a single position against the government negotiators.

De Mistura suggested that was on track, since the three opposition leaders had built mutual trust and confidence and planned to meet again later this month.—Reuters ■



UN Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria Staffan de Mistura (3rd L) attends a new round of negotiation with Syria’s main opposition High Negotiations Committee (HNC) leader Nasr al-Hariri during the Intra Syria talks, at Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, on 14 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Head of Islamic State in Afghanistan killed

WASHINGTON — The head of Islamic State in Afghanistan, Abu Sayed, was killed in a strike on the group’s headquarters in Kunar province earlier this week, the Pentagon said on Friday.

Pentagon spokeswoman Dana White said in a statement that other members of the Islam-

ic State group were also killed in the strike on Tuesday.

US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis told reporters, “The significance is you kill a leader of one of these groups and it sets them back... it is obviously a victory on our side in terms of setting them back, it is the right direction.”

Sayed is the third Islamic State leader in Afghanistan to be killed since July 2016.

Former leader Abdul Hasib was killed in a joint US and Afghan operation on 27 April in the eastern province of Nangarhar. Hasib’s predecessor Hafiz Saeed Khan died in a US drone strike

in 2016.

Afghan troops, backed by US warplanes and special forces, have been battling militants linked to Islamic State in eastern Afghanistan for years.

The local affiliate of Islamic State, sometimes known as Islamic State Khorasan (ISIS-K)

after an old name for the region that includes Afghanistan, has been active since 2015, fighting the Taliban and Afghan and US forces.

General John Nicholson, the top US commander in Afghanistan, has vowed to defeat Islamic State there this year.—Reuters ■

One of worst droughts in decades devastates South Europe crops

ROME/MADRID — Italian durum wheat and dairy farmer Attilio Tocchi saw warning signs during the winter of the dramatic drought to come at his holding a mile away from the Tuscan coast.

“When it still hadn’t rained at the beginning of spring we realized it was already irreparable,” he said, adding that he had installed fans to try and cool his cows that were suffering in the heat.

Drought in southern Europe threatens to reduce cereal production in Italy and parts of Spain to its lowest level in at least 20 years, and hit other regional crops including olives and almonds.

Castile and Leon, the largest cereal growing region in Spain, has been particularly badly affected, with crop losses estimated at around 60 to 70 per cent.

“This year was not bad, it was catastrophic. I can’t remember a year like this since 1992 when I was a little child,” said Joaquin Antonio Pino, a cereal



Agustin Rodriguez Sanchez, a cereal and cattle farmer, feeds a stud in San Garcia de Ingelmos, Spain, on 10 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

farmer in Sinlabajos, Avila.

Pino said many of his fields had not even been harvested, because crop revenues would not cover the wages of laborers who gathered them.

While the EU is collectively a major wheat exporter, Spain and Italy both rely on imports from countries including France, Britain and Ukraine.

Spanish soft wheat imports

are expected to rise by more than 40 per cent to 5.6 million tonnes in the 2017-2018 marketing year, according to Agroinformarket.

The drought has helped support EU wheat futures, which

have risen around 6 per cent since the beginning of June, although the prospect of a larger harvest in France this year should ensure adequate overall supplies in the trading bloc.

Spain and Italy are also among the world’s top producers of olive oil.

Production in both countries is expected to fall, but the decline is likely to be particularly steep in Italy, where drought is the latest headache for olive growers already plagued by insects and a bacterial disease in recent years.

A 60 per cent drop in Italian output is forecast by the International Olive Council.

“We expected good production this year, but it hasn’t turned out like that,” said Francesco Suatoni, who tends about 4,000 olive trees on the fringe of the ancient town of Amelia, in Umbria, central Italy.

Holding up a branch with small, shriveled pods on it he added: “Each little ball could have been an olive, but it’s scorched. —Reuters ■

Brazil proposes shrinking national forest after highway protests

SAO PAULO — Brazil’s government has sent Congress a bill to shrink the boundaries of a national forest in the Amazonian state of Pará, according a statement from the Environment Ministry on Friday, a move environmentalists said would speed deforestation of the area.

The government proposed the bill as a compromise measure after local residents, who see the Jamanxim national forest as a source of livelihood, blocked a key grains exporting highway in response to President Michel Temer’s veto of similar legislation to reduce its protected area.

The government’s bill, if approved, would create a new protection area (APA) near the town of Novo Progresso, which is on the edge of the forest around 790 miles (1,270 kms) northwest of the capital Brasilia. The measure would convert 349,086 hectares, or 27 per cent of the national forest into an APA, the ministry said.

The government said the APA would discipline land occupation, promoting the sustainable use of the rainforest and conservation of its water resources.



A military policeman walks past trunks of trees recently cut illegally from the Amazon rainforest, inside Jamanxim National Park near the city of Novo Progresso, Para state, in 2013. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Environmentalists denounced the measure as an official stimulus to land-grabbing, which in turn leads to illegal logging, clear-cutting and mining in one of the hotspots of deforestation of the Amazon biome.

“The bill is seen as an amnesty for illegal occupation of the conservancy unit,” said Observatório do Clima on its website, adding the government “yielded to pressure” from the rural lobby.

The bill followed blockades

this month of the BR-163 highway, which runs next to the 1.3 million-hectare national forest. The highway links grain producing regions in Mato Grosso state to waterways connected to key Northern ports.

Protesters suspended the blockades, which began on July 3, after Temer sent the bill to Congress, according to a statement from the Sociedade Civil Organizada group on Friday. — Reuters ■

Iran, EU launch nuclear safety cooperation project

TEHRAN — Iran and the European Union (EU) have launched a joint project to cooperate on nuclear safety programmes, Financial Tribune daily reported on Saturday.

Following the Wednesday meeting between the visiting EU delegation headed by Olivier Luyckx, the director of EU nuclear safety unit, and Hojjatollah Salehi, the director of Iran’s nuclear safety center, both sides officially announced the start of the 2.85-million-US-dollar project. The project is part of a 5.7-million-US-dollar package approved in 2016 with regard to Iran-EU cooperation on nuclear safety to enhance Iran’s nuclear safety capabilities in various spheres, including the establishment of a nuclear safety center, the report said.

Under the agreement which will last for three and a half years, the EU will support the Iranian Nuclear Regulatory Authority to develop a nuclear regulatory framework and

will support Iran’s accession to several international nuclear conventions. The project, signed within the framework of Iran’s nuclear deal, also seeks to provide more training opportunities to Iranian experts on nuclear safety procedures.

Iran and six world powers, including Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States, reached an agreement on the Iranian nuclear issue on 14 July, 2015, which put it on the path of sanctions relief but with more strict limits on its nuclear programme. The deal set limits on Iran’s nuclear activities as it would take Tehran at least one year to produce enough fissile material for a nuclear weapon, and allowed regular inspections of the facilities inside Iran.

In return, the United States and the European Union will suspend nuclear-related sanctions against Iran, including recalling all past UN Security Council sanction resolutions. — Xinhua ■

Honolulu high-rise blaze kills three, injures five

HONOLULU — Three people died in a fire that consumed three floors of a 36-storey condominium tower in Honolulu on Friday, city officials said.

At least five others were injured in the blaze at the Marco Polo high-rise that send thick black smoke pouring out over the city, a month to the day after a deadly tower fire in London. Firefighters sprayed water onto the flames from nearby balconies and brought them under control at about 6:30 p.m. local time (0430 GMT Saturday), four hours after the fire began, Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell told reporters. “We were all trying to help as much as we could ... but there was a fire and you could see it spreading,” said 72-year-old resident, Karen Hastings, who was in the building when the



A police officer directs a fire truck at the Marco Polo apartment building after a fire broke out in it in Honolulu, Hawaii, on 14 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

fire broke out.

The blaze began on the 26th floor and quickly spread to the two floors above, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser newspaper reported. There were no

immediate reports on what caused it. Images posted online showed orange flames raging on several floors and debris falling from windows.

Fire Chief Manuel

Neves told reporters that the building did not have a sprinkler system. Officers were conducting a room-by-room search, a task that could take several hours, he said. “We don’t have

any information for us to believe that there are problems with the structure,” Neves added. The building was constructed in 1971, before the city began requiring sprinkler systems,

the Honolulu Star-Advertiser newspaper said. City officials told the newspaper that if the building had had a sprinkler system, the fire would have been contained to the original unit. Emergency responders said they took at least five people to hospital with injuries and a number of others were treated at the scene. Evacuees were being accommodated at a nearby park, with volunteers tending them, the Hawaii Red Cross said on social network Twitter.

The fire forced the closure of a major road in front of the condominium complex, the Honolulu police department said on Twitter.

In London, at least 80 people were killed when a fire gutted the 24-story Grenfell Tower apartments on 14 June. That building also did not have a sprinkler system.—Reuters ■

Drinking more coffee may help increase longevity

LONDON — Drinking more coffee could extend people’s life span, as coffee drinkers would have a lower risk of death, especially for heart diseases, cancer and diabetes among others, a new study shows.

Researchers from the International Agency for Research on Cancer and Imperial College London found that an extra cup of coffee every day would lengthen the life of a man by around three months and a woman by around one month on average.

It also shows that people who drank three or more cups of coffee per day would have a lower risk of all-cause death, such as respiratory disease, kidney and liver disease as well as stroke, than those who did not drink coffee.

The research, published in the journal the

Annals of Internal Medicine, surveyed more than 520,000 people aged over 35 from 10 European Union countries.

However, skeptics said that it was impossible to validate the relationship between coffee and longevity, because the study had too many variables between coffee drinkers and non-coffee drinkers, such as healthier lifestyles, more spending on healthcare and more effective socializing that benefited people’s wellbeing.

Health experts also pointed out that the effects of caffeine vary from person to person. Moreover, caffeine can be consumed through not only coffee, but also through other beverages, such as tea and cola, which makes the research weaker to hold water.—Xinhua ■

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIP where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV CAPE FLORES VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CAPE FLORES VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV PACITA VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACITA VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV SAN GIOGRIO VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SAN GIOGRIO VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S’PORE)
PTE LTD**
Phone No: 2301185

One Direction star joins Prince Harry on 'Dunkirk' red carpet



Actor Harry Styles and Prince Harry attend the 'Dunkirk' World Premiere at Odeon Leicester Square on 13 July 2017 in London, Britain. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LONDON — Two Harrys — one pop and the other British royalty — proved the biggest hits on the red carpet at the world premiere of director Christopher Nolan's new film, "Dunkirk".

The World War II epic is the movie acting debut for One Direction star Harry Styles, who was joined by Prince Harry on Thursday night in London to see Nolan's highly anticipated film.

Singer Styles soaked up the adulation from an army of screaming fans but suggested this could be his only movie premiere, acting coy about whether he would seek more film roles.

"I don't know, I really enjoyed this, I might be one and done though — I'd do this one again for sure," he told Reuters.

The film is the latest from

"Inception" director Nolan, who has enjoyed box office success with a string of unconventional blockbusters.

Regular Nolan collaborators Tom Hardy and Cillian Murphy star alongside Kenneth Branagh and Mark Rylance in the film, which chronicles Operation Dynamo, in which some 338,000 Allied troops were rescued between 27 May and 3 June, 1940, by warships and a flotilla of pleasure boats and other small craft.

Branagh had good things to say about his experience working with newcomer Styles.

"Very good. Very good. He showed up honest and humble and hardworking, and he does a fine job", he said. Dunkirk is due to open in cinemas on 21 July, 2017.—Reuters ■

Fired Kermit the Frog puppeteer 'devastated' for failing his hero

LOS ANGELES — The man who voiced Kermit the Frog for 27 years wrote an emotional letter about being fired, saying he was "devastated to have failed in my duty to my hero."

Steve Whitmire made his comments in a blog post on Thursday, days after the Muppets Studio's announcement of a new puppeteer to perform the role of the earnest Kermit, one of creator Jim Henson's best-known characters.

Kermit was performed by Henson since he created it in 1955 until his death in 1990. The character is best known for its tempestuous relationship with the ardent Miss Piggy.

Whitmire, who started working on "The Muppet Show" in 1978 at age 19, took over the role from Henson. He called the Muppets "not just a job, a career or even a passion. They are an urgent, undeniable, impossible-to-resist way of life."

"I would never consider abandoning Kermit," he added on his personal blog site, saying he was told in October 2016 that executives at Muppets Studio, owned

by Walt Disney Co, would be replacing the Kermit puppeteer.

Without giving details, Whitmire said executives had raised two issues with him that he had tried to remedy in the past nine months without success.

Disney executives declined to discuss the reasons for Whitmire's departure but issued a statement saying "the Muppets Studio thanks Steve for his tremendous contributions to Kermit the Frog and The Muppets franchise. We wish him well in his future endeavors."

Whitmire performed the role of Kermit in numerous television shows, movies and live appearances, including "Sesame Street," "Fraggle Rock," "Muppets Most Wanted," and in the recent fictional talk show TV reboot "The Muppets," which ABC canceled in 2016 after one season.

He also voiced the roles of Ernie, Rizzo the Rat, Beaker and Statler.

Performer Matt Vogel will make his first outing as Kermit in a "Muppets Thought of the Week" video coming out next week.—Reuters ■

Beyonce wakes up world with first pictures of twins on Instagram



Beyonce performs at the 59th Annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, California, US, on 12 February 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LOS ANGELES — Pop star Beyonce debuted the pictures of her twins, Sir Carter and Rumi, in an Instagram post on Friday, causing an internet sensation once more in her first public acknowledgement of their birth.

"Sir Carter and Rumi 1 month today," Beyonce, 35, wrote in the post, which showed her holding her two infants.

She wore a blue veil and a colourful flowing robe that fell off her left shoulder. The picture had been "liked" more than 6.5 million times nine hours after it was posted.

Social media lit up, with thousands of people expressing their excitement about the trending photo. Many happily said it was the first image they woke up to.

"I wake up to Beyonce hold-

ing her two sons," wrote Twitter user Fadia Kader (@FADIA). "Good morning everyone."

"For the record, I was one of the first 2,500 people to like her post," boasted Twitter user @benduffie. "We basically fam."

Neither Beyonce, one of the world's most popular singers, nor her husband, 47-year-old rap star and entrepreneur Jay-Z, had made any announcement about the birth until now.

Beyonce's father, Mathew Knowles, had said in a tweet in June that she was now the mother of twins, confirming earlier reports of the year's most highly anticipated celebrity birth.

The singer, one of the most powerful women in the music business, announced the pregnancy on her Instagram account

in February this year along with an image of her posing in lingerie and caressing a noticeable baby bump.

The photo became the most-liked Instagram picture of all time, with 11 million likes.

News of the twins came less than a year after the release of the R&B singer's 2016 album "Lemonade," in which she appeared to address long-standing rumors of trouble in her eight-year marriage. Jay-Z's own recent album, "4:44," also dealt with the subject.

After a successful world tour of "Lemonade," Beyonce became the second highest-paid entertainer in the year ended on June 1, earning \$105 million, Forbes said. Only Sean "Diddy" Combs, at \$130 million, topped her.—Reuters ■



Wrestlers warm up before competing in the annual Kirkpinar oil wrestling tournament at the Sarayici arena in Edirne, Turkey, on 14 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Turkish oil wrestlers grapple to win 600-year-old title

EDIRNE, (Turkey) — Some 2,200 oil wrestlers began fighting bouts at a stadium in the northwestern Turkish city of Edirne on Friday, competing to win a golden belt in a contest dating back to the 14th Century.

Organisers said a record number of wrestlers were taking part in the annual Kirkpinar tournament, in which participants don leather trousers and pour olive oil over their bodies before competing in a grassy field. Among those challenging for the golden belt and a winner's prize of 50,000 lira (10,706 pounds) was Umit Kinali, 32, a bodyguard from Bodrum in southwest Turkey. "My grandfather was an oil

wrestler and I want to continue our family tradition," said Kinali. "Wrestling is fun," he added, before competing in a bout.

Sixty wrestlers will fight their way through qualifying to compete on Sunday in the final of the 656th edition of the annual contest in Edirne, near the border with Greece and Bulgaria. The stands in the 25,000-seated Sarayici stadium were sparsely filled on Friday, but were expected to be full on the final day of a contest which the festival's official website (www.edirnekirkpinar.com) describes as the world's longest continuously held sporting event, launched in 1357. —Reuters ■

One year after release, Pokemon Go is fitness tool for older people

OSAKA — About a year after the craze over the release of Pokemon Go, the smartphone app game has largely become a tool for middle-aged and older people to stay fit as well as a way for some Japanese tourist spots to attract visitors.

One day in early July, 48-year-old Tsutomu Misago was touching the screen of his smartphone in Tempozan Park in Osaka, western Japan, where hordes of young players used to gather to catch rare virtual characters of the location-based game.

"I've nothing to do on my days off," Misago, who runs a construction business in Kobe, said while playing Pokemon Go. Getting out and playing the game is "better than just

staying at home," he said, wiping sweat off his face.

There was another middle aged man nearby walking with his smartphone.

"I'm a job bachelor," said the 56-year-old company employee, who lives in Osaka apart from his family due to his job. "I keep playing it as I have few other reasons to go out."

In Tokyo's Ueno Park, which was also once a popular place for Pokemon Go fans, there were far fewer people playing the game than before. "I stopped playing it after two months as I felt tired of walking," said a 20-year-old man strolling in the park with his girlfriend.

They were in the park "to see the baby panda," he said, referring to a giant panda cub born in June at

a zoo adjacent to the park.

The augmented reality game jointly developed by Nintendo Co., Pokemon Co. and Niantic Inc. was released in Japan on 22 June last year, about two weeks after its global debut in the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

As it had elsewhere before, the game immediately became a social phenomenon in Japan, flooding parks and streets with players trying to catch various "Pokemon" monsters that appear superimposed on their smartphone screens based on the player's location. The game was blamed for causing traffic accidents and trespassing problems involving players getting carried away.

According to Tokyo-based research agency Values Inc., the number of players who play the game at least once a month climbed to an estimated 11 million in Japan shortly after its domestic release in July last year.

The figure had halved by the fall of 2016 with the frenzy calming down.

The proportion of Pokemon Go players in their 20s and 30s dropped to 52 per cent from 62 per cent after 12 months, while that of people aged 40 or older rose to 48 per cent from 38 per cent, according to Values.

Older people have continued enjoying the app despite its shrinking popularity among younger players. Some senior citizens' clubs have promoted it as a way to increase their outside activities.—Kyodo News ■

NatRay Wellness's monsoon promotion begins in July

NatRay Wellness organized a monsoon promotion at A4-001, Shwe Gabar Housing on Min Dhamma road, Yangon from 13 to 24 July. NatRay Wellness sells gym and fitness equipment and other high quality training accessories.

NatRay import gym and fitness equipment brands such as Life Fitness (USA), Impulse (UK) and Ziva (UK) as sole agent and provide consultation and advises on Gym Management and Floor Plan for anyone who want to start a home gym or a commercial gym.—GNLM



mitv Myanmar International Programme Schedule

(16-7-2017 07:00am ~ 17-7-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:25	Am	Paper Products... Plain but Pretty
07:46	Am	Moe Hnyin Than Buddhhe, The Unique Pagoda In Monywa
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Inn Yaung Village's Tazaungdine Night
08:35	Am	Myanmar Traditional Instruments - Myanma Harp (Episode-1)
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Travelogue: "Anyar Myay" or Upcountry (Part-I)
09:49	Am	Amazing: Sayargyi Nyein Chan Aung
10:03	Am	News
10:27	Am	Unique Pattern of Myanma...A Trend of Chin Traditional Dress)

10:58 Am Never Forget The Martyr's Day (May La Thanzin)

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Saturday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) -Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:26	Pm	My Travel In This Exceptional Place, Inle Lake
07:47	Pm	Dances of Myanmar "Gaybar Kayin Traditional Dance"
07:52	Pm	Now in Yangon
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Myanmar National Poet And Literary Icon; Prolific Writer of Poems & Prose - Min Thu Wun (Ep-3) His Public Service & Literary World
08:52	Pm	Today Myanmar: CBT in Kampetlet Township

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) -Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Saturday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) -Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

(For Detailed Schedule – www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)

MRTV

Programme Schedule
(16-7-2017, Sunday)

6:00 Am	11:30 Am
♦ Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw	♦ Taste of Korea
7:00 Am	4:35 Pm
♦ Breakfast News	♦ Documentary (Martyr)
8:35 Am	5:05 Pm
♦ Cartoon	♦ Sunday Talk
8:50 Am	5:30 Pm
♦ Peace Music Festival (Myitkyina)	♦ Documentary (Martyr)
9:40 Am	6:30 Pm
♦ Nine Percept	♦ Road to SEA Game
10:00 Am	7:15 Pm
♦ Sunday Talk	♦ TV Deama Series
10:35 Am	8:00 Pm
♦ Women in Myanmar Society	♦ News/ International News/ Weather Report
11:00 Am	8:30 Pm
♦ Poen for Children	♦ Peace Music Festival (LIVE) (Myitkyina)
11:10 Am	
♦ MRTV Travelogue	

Sublime Federer outclasses gritty Berdych to reach final

LONDON — Roger Federer's relentless pursuit of a record eighth Wimbledon title continued as he fought off stubborn Czech Tomas Berdych 7-6(4), 7-6(4), 6-4 to reach the final for the 11th time on Friday.

The 35-year-old Swiss was given his toughest test yet by the 11th seed, who beat him at the quarter-final stage in 2010, but he raised his game at the crucial moments to become the oldest men's singles finalist here since Ken Rosewall in 1974.

Rosewall, then aged 39, went on to lose to Jimmy Connors but Federer will be a huge favourite to reclaim the title he last won in 2012 against big-serving Croatian Marin Cilic on Sunday.

Federer has now reached 29 grand slam finals and for the third time in his career has reached the Wimbledon final without dropping a set, having also achieved the feat in 2006 and 2008.

"I feel very privileged to be in another final," Federer, who received a standing ovation at the end, said.

"I've got the pleasure to play on Centre Court another time. I can't believe it's almost true again. I'm happy to have a day off to reflect on what I've done at



Switzerland's Roger Federer waves as he walks off court after winning the semi final match against Czech Republic's Tomas Berdych at Wimbledon in London, Britain, on 14 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

the tournament."

Twelve months ago here Federer lost to Milos Raonic in the semi-finals - his legs looking heavy and the years finally appearing to catch up with him - but this year he has rolled back the clock in glorious fashion.

He now is one-match away from holding two of the game's

major four prizes for the first time since 2010 having begun the year by claiming the Australian Open title.

Berdych, who reached the semi-final after second seed Novak Djokovic retired hurt in the quarters, spent a diligent two hours and 18 minutes at the coalface on Friday.

But while 31-year-old toiled with his muscular game it was the dashing Federer who supplied the gems.

Federer, contesting a record 12th Wimbledon semi-final, broke serve in the fifth game when he ran Berdych ragged before whipping a ball out of the air into the corner.—Reuters ■

Ibrahimovic could stay with United, says Mourinho

LONDON — Zlatan Ibrahimovic could be offered a new deal by Manchester United, the Premier League club's manager Jose Mourinho said on Friday ahead of a friendly with Los Angeles Galaxy.

Speaking at a news conference on the eve of their first pre-season tour match in California, Mourinho left the door open to the Swede returning when he recovers from knee surgery.

The out-of-contract Ibrahimovic, 35, was United's top scorer last term after joining on a one-year deal, but he was injured in April and is likely to be sidelined at least until December.

"If the decision is to stay and wait until December — he can't be back until then — why not wait? We are speaking and changing ideas," the Portuguese coach told reporters.

With Ibrahimovic out of action, Mourinho has brought in Belgium striker Romelu Lukaku from Everton for a fee put at about 75 million pounds by British media.—Reuters ■

Muguruza blows away Venus to take first Wimbledon crown

LONDON — An inspired Garbine Muguruza stormed to her first Wimbledon title on Saturday, blowing away in-form American Venus Williams 7-5, 6-0 with arguably the performance of her career after tight and tense early exchanges.

In the first women's final played under the Centre Court roof, a high-quality first set gradually built towards a captivating conclusion after both players began with two comfortable service holds.

Muguruza saved two set points in the 10th game, the first a 19-stroke rally that ended when Williams netted a forehand. The Spaniard broke in the following game when another lung-bursting rally ended

on a forehand error from the American.

An astonishing defensive lob in the next then took Muguruza to two set points, the second of which she converted.

That three-game sequence seemed to break the resolve of the American who, trying to become the oldest woman to win Wimbledon for 109 years, lost the second set to love in an equally astonishing turnaround.

The Venezuela-born 23-year-old sealed her second grand slam victory after a successful Hawkeye challenge of a Williams forehand that sailed just beyond the baseline.—Reuters ■



Spain's Garbine Muguruza poses with the trophy as she celebrates winning the final against Venus Williams of the US in London, Britain, on 15 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

16 JULY 2017

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

SELFIE: PROS & CONS



Hsu Thapayay Naing
University Of Veterinary
Science

Nowadays, social media and the mobile web have given rise to a strange phenomenon called “Selfie”. What is Selfie? It is a photograph of the self which taken with phone camera held in the hand or supported by a selfie stick and with digital camera or tablet. In the past, people are already satisfied on photos taken by others for them or they used to photograph the self by uncovering the lens of the camera and running into the shot. So, many different new things arise in our society now.

“Selfies” has records of being defined as early as 2004, and people of all ages can be seen taking selfies and uploading on social media. Mostly, selfies are used for sharing on social networks such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and of course, Snapchat. Now, people are able to create their own selfies very quickly and easily and post them within seconds and this makes people more addicted to taking selfies. According to reports, 1 million selfies are posted on social media everyday.

I also love taking selfies especially when I visit a new place. And I see lots of people seriously falling in love with taking selfies in my neighbourhood. My friends also enjoy it. Whenever or wherever we never say NO to take selfies and pose with so many facial expressions including

funny faces. Then, we review these pics and laugh freely. It makes us loads of fun and enjoyable memories. And we sometimes upload them for saving memories. But when do they become a problem? Or even an obsession? We should take a look at some of the pros and cons of selfies.

Selfie trend has both good and bad. Considering why selfies can be good, taking selfies is a great way of capturing the moment and to make memories. And the need for a photographer is dispensed with. Moreover, selfies can be used for informing the position of self to the family that lives in a distant place. Besides, providing the evidence of being present in a place. And selfies can boost self-confidence. When selfies are good, people tend to feel good about themselves. They are a good way to express ourselves. They can be entertaining and interesting.

However, selfies do have a negative side to them as well. People who takes too many selfies tend to be superficial and become very self-obsessed and can also cause psychological effects. People tend to have a negative opinion of people who take too many selfies. Furthermore, we cannot guess or know the truth behind the selfies on social media. For example; if I take a few selfies for Facebook and post them, I probably pretended I was doing something entertaining but in reality I was actually



PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR

alone or eating snacks and reading books. So, the internet is not a very safe place. Selfies with celebrities are used to promote business and influence in the market.

Selfie-culture is so prevalent that it can be harmed by this culture. I have heard one lady died from electrocution as she was capturing selfies atop a parked train. And, a college girl suffered a fatal head injury when she tried to take a selfie and fell from a moving train. Some countries have launched the awareness and advisory campaigns to educate their citizens on the danger involved in selfies.

Selfies are very much a creation of the young generation and in modern times. Selfies are sometimes more than just trying to look pretty. There is an overwhelming pressure in society today that we must all be beautiful, skinny, perfect like a lot of the celebrities and models that we see in magazine, in movies and on TV. Everyone is beautiful inside and out. That is what we are all told and I look forward to the day when every person in the entire world is able to believe that about ourselves. When everyone sharing a selfie and thinking, “Wow! I feel good today!” brings us closer to that, then I encourage it entirely. ■

My Zoo House



Lin Thant Kyi Sin
Aye @ Ji Ji Aye
Dulwich College Yangon (Pun
Hlaing Golf Estate Avenue)

I had a passion for animals the second I popped out of my mom’s womb. I grew up loving animals, my dad rescues wild animals so I lived with wild animals for almost my whole life. My mom on the

other hand loves dogs, she taught me how to take care of them.

At age 5, I picked up my German Shepherd from my grandfather. I went on Youtube to watch videos on how to train dogs. Minnie (German Shepherd’s name) was a well trained dog. We also rescued 2 Chipmunks and 5 birds. Then, we moved into a house with bigger garden. The birds were relocated to my dad’s office which was 10 acres. My family rescued

3 Burmese Cranes, 5 Ducklings, 1 rooster, 1 chicken, two rabbits, 2 turtles, 1 deer and a bear during a 5 years time span.

We also have a horse farm with 30 horses (both breed & bought). I also have 2 dogs (Minnie & Zara) and a cat (Kate). When I grow up, I want to open an animal shelter; when I walk past stray dogs, I feel pitiful for them. I have already donate my pocket money to Yangon animal

shelter. I also want to open a pet hotel.

In Yangon, pet hotels are not “safe” because a sick pet can be sent here and now every animal is infected. Due to this fact, I want to become a vet. I can take care of stray animals without using donations money as vet bills. I can also examine sick dogs. I think with my hard work and passion, anything is possible. ■



Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Real name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office

Basic English Grammar for Basic Students

Lesson 11: Adverbs

Hello, dear students!

We have already studied about “Adjectives” last week. Do you remember what Adjectives are?

Adjectives are words that tell something more about Nouns.

In this lesson, we are going to study about “ Adverbs” .

“Adverbs” are words that tell something about “Verbs”.

e.g. The boy runs quickly.

She comes early to school.

I can work this problem well.

Seinpanpyar can grow well in Pyin Oo Lwin.

He stood first.

They will go to Singapore in September.

Here, in these sentences, the words “quickly, early, well, in Pyin Oo Lwin, first” tell us something about the Verbs. So, they are called “Adverbs”.

Let us see one by one.

(1) The boy runs quickly.

Here, the word “quickly” tells something more about the Verb, “runs”.

How does the boy run? He runs quickly.

(2) She comes early to school.

Here, the word “early” tells something more about the Verb “comes”.

How does she come to school? She comes early.

(3) I can work this problem well.

Here, the word “well” tells something more about the Verb “can work”.

In what way can I work? I can work well.

(4) Seinpanpyar can grow well in Pyin Oo Lwin.

Here, the words “in Pyin Oo Lwin” tells something about the Verb, “can grow” .(“well’ is also an Adverb too .) .

Where can Seinpanpyar grow well? In Pyin Oo Lwin .

So it is an Adverb of the Verb “can grow”.

It tells where Seinpanpyar can grow well.

(5) He stood first.

Here, the word “first” tells something about the Verb, “stood”.

It tells us how he stood. He stood first.

So, it is an Adverb of the Verb, “stood”.

(6) They will go to Singapore in September.

Here, the words “in September” tells us something about the Verb, “will go”.

It shows us when they will go to Singapore. It is an Adverb of the Verb, “will go”.

Here, “to Singapore” is also an Adverb to the Verb, “will go”.

It shows where they will go.

So, all these words that tell something more about the “Verbs”, which show “How, when, where, how much, how many times” are all Adverbs.

Here come the Exercises for you!

Exercise 11

- I. Underline the Adverbs in these sentences.
- (a) The baby sleeps well, in her cradle.
 - (b) The mother is doing all her work silently.
 - (c) She will come here tomorrow.
 - (d) I can write this Essay well.
 - (e) Have you studied your lesson daily?
 - (f) She travelled to town early.
 - (g) The man often comes to this village.
 - (h) She can dance and sing beautifully.
 - (i) He rarely studied his lesson.
 - (j) He works hard.
 - (k) She hardly works in the kitchen.
 - (l) The dogs bark loudly.
 - (m) The old woman speaks slowly.
 - (n) He stood in the corner silently.
 - (o) She stood still in the center of the room.
- II. Write down ten Adverbs.
- III. Fill in the following blank spaces with suitable Adverbs.
- (a) The Princess sings
 - (b) He can play the piano

- (c) He will come up tomorrow morning.
- (d) What a man! He always comes to work
- (e) You will find Mandalay
- (f) We have a Botanical Garden in
- (g) She studied her lesson. We saw her going out.
- (h) He works That’s why he becomes rich.
- (i) Can your dog run?
- (j) She is speaking very, so I cannot hear what she says.

Different Kinds of Adverbs

There are different kinds of Adverbs.

(1) Adverbs of Manner

It shows us the manner in which an action is being performed.

e.g. He runs quickly.

She sings sweetly.

The man fought bravely.

The boy sighs heavily.

You may go out swiftly.

These Adverbs, “quickly, sweetly, bravely, heavily, and swiftly” shows how the Verbs work.

These are called Adverbs of Manner.

We can form an Adverb of Manner very easily by putting “ly” or “ily” or “aly” to the Adjectives as:

quick	quickly
soft	softly
sweet	sweetly
smart	smartly
brave	bravely
stupid	stupidly
heavy	heavily
total	totally and so on .

Exercise 11

- IV. Make the following Adjectives into Adverbs.
- timid, wise, early, light, loud, sharp, clear, time, short, brief
- (2) Adverbs of Time
- If the Adverbs show when the action of the “Verbs” are done, these are called Adverbs of Time.
- e.g. (1) He will come next year.
- (2) Her Birthday Party will be held in September.
- (3) He came to his mother last night.
- (4) The King will let the prisoners go next week.
- (5) Mu Mu will come to school tomorrow.
- (6) I can finish this work today.
- Here, in these sentences , the words “next year, in September, last night, next week, tomorrow, today” show when the actions of the Verbs are done.
- They are the Adverbs of Time.

(3) Adverbs of Place

When the Adverbs show “where” the actions of the Verbs are done, they are called “Adverb of Place”.

e.g. (1) She is going to England.

(2) Mg Mg has worked in the far away country.

(3) She lives in Mandalay.

(4) They are fishing in the stream.

(5) He can climb up the mountain.

Here in these sentences, the words “to England, in the far away country, in Mandalay, in the stream, up the mountain” are all Adverbs that show where the action of the Verbs are done.

These are Adverbs of Place.

(4) Adverbs of Frequency

Some Adverbs tell something about the Verbs as “how many times or how much” the actions of the Verbs are done. These are called “Adverbs of Frequency”.

e.g. He often visits her house.

She rarely comes home.

They will sing twice tonight.

Their teacher frequently scolds them.

Mother will bake cakes thrice in a week.

FROM PAGE-B

Here the Adverbs “often, rarely, twice, frequently, thrice” show us how many times or how much often the actions of the Verbs are done. They are Adverbs of Frequency.

There are two more different kinds of Adverbs named “Adverbs of Reason” and “Adverbs of Purpose”.

These will be explained in later lessons.

Here come another Exercise.

Exercise 11

V. Underline the Adverbs in the following sentences and tell which kind of Adverbs they are.

- She will come back home early if she can finish her work in time.
- She can sing sweetly, but she cannot dance beautifully.
- When I was just a little girl, I frequently dance at home.
- He hardly learned his lesson well.
- Ko Ko will go and get the cup of water quickly.
- You will come tomorrow, won't you?
- Wherever Mary went, the lamb was sure to go.
- The Moon is shining up there.
- She stays for a week in Maymyo.
- His dog can run quickly.

That's all for today's lesson, class .

I hope that you can do your exercises very well.

Bye for now class! See you next week!

Your English Teacher (GNLM)

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Here are the answers to the last week's Exercises 10.

I. Examples of ten Adjectives :.. beautiful , ugly, long, short, different, same, sour, sweet, handsome, soft

II. The Adjectives in the sentences are

- graceful, five
- much, her
- Chinese
- this
- little, rocking
- big
- our, our, exercise
- smart, his
- my, beautiful
- this, expensive

III. Examples of Adjectives of Quality .. pretty girl, short story, golden hair, sweet apples, tall boy
Examples of Adjectives of Quantity.. two hours , ten chickens, much sugar, a little salt, more ice-creams
Examples of Possessive Adjectives .. my home, our house, her village, his car , your book , its tail
Examples of Demonstrative Adjectives .. this bag, that window, these girls , those cars

IV.

- ten (Adj.of Quantity), green(Adj. of Quality), front(-Adj. of Quality)
- many (Adj. of Quantity), narrow(Adj. of Quality)
- your (Possessive Adj.) , early (Adj of Quality)
- that (Demonstrative Adj.) , hilly (Adj. of Quality)
- this (Demonstrative Adj.), difficult (Adj. of Quality)
- this (Demonstrative Adj.) , unseen(Adj.of Quality)
- old (Adj. of Quality)
- little (Adj. of Quality), many (Adj. of Quantity), that (Demonstrative Adj.) , green(Adj. of Quality)
- These (Demonstrative Adj.) , pink (Adj. of Quality), sweet-smelling (Adj. of Quality)
- That (Demonstrative Adj.), naughty (Adj. of Quality), other (Adj. of Quality), young (Adj. of Quality).

I believe that you have done well my dear!

Bye for now! See you next week !

Your English Teacher (GNLM)

How to Improve and What to Improve in Our Education System (3)

Dr. Nu Nu Win
(Retired Professor and Head of Department)

In the last week's discussion, we were discussing about the different steps in learning namely,

- Knowledge,
- Comprehension,
- Application,
- Analysis,
- Synthesis, and
- Evaluation

The writer remembers that we are now reaching Step (4) Analysis.

As it is mentioned in its name, this step will lead the learner to analyze what he had already learnt. Here, to do “Analysis” , we need the ability to differentiate and categorize what we have learnt from a bird's eye view. That means we know the different characteristics of what we have learnt and their different concepts.

Then comes the step “Synthesis”.

In this step, we can synthesize what we have already learnt.

For example, to write an Essay, we need to understand and use what we have learnt; the vocabularies, the morphology, the sentence structures, the grammar, the knowledge concerned with that subject matter and so on. We can write a good essay only if we learnt what we have mentioned just now. So, this is the “Synthesis” step.

The last step is “Evaluation”.

Here “Evaluation” means we should have our own thinking to decide what is right and what is wrong , the value of what we have learnt, and then decide its value. Here in this step we have “critical thinking” too. And what or how much we value what we have learnt.

Only after all these steps, we can create our own idea and our own image concerning what we have learnt. Even in the “Synthesis” Step, we can contribute our own creation.

Therefore, we need to put all these steps as much as possible in our Curriculum, step by step, not too much going too far very quickly.

But, it should also go with the different development conditions and different interests of the students in different ages. That's why I discussed about the “Educational Psychologists” who know very well about the different conditions of the children and youths in different ages.

Last, but not the least, what the writer wants to mention here is all these Curriculum should go together with the political policy of the country.

As our country is now going with the Democracy Policies in our political matters, our Education System

should also go with the Democratic Philosophy.

We had Socialist Philosophy of Education in the days of the Burmese Way of Socialism, why should we not have a “Democratic Philosophy of Education”? Only the Educational Philosophers can lay down this “Democratic Philosophy of Education”. Only after that we can lay down the “Policies of Education” and then we can decide Laws and regulations in the field of Education. Then only we can operate our plans and projects of Education.

So, we cannot properly plan our Education System Improving without any Educationists. We need Educational Philosophers to lay down the policies with a Democratic Philosophy of Education as its foundation; only then would we be able to carry out other plans and projects in Education. We need Educational Psychologists for laying down a new Curriculum which go together with the ways and means of the Democratic country.

This is the proper way to improve our Education System step by step.

The other thing we should take into account is we are going to construct a “Democratic Federal Union”, so we need to think of how the lines of Education will come up .

As there are 14 different states and regions with 14 different State or Regional Governments, how will it go in Education? Should we have 14 different State or Regional Ministers for Education? Or are we going to have the Union Minister for Education at the top and then the different line up posts for all other administrative posts? Do all State and Regional Ministers for Education need to obey the words and order of the Union Minister for Education or not? For each State and Region knows their own conditions better than the better anybody else. That is to say State and Regional Ministers of Education know about their own conditions better than others. So who should be the decision makers? It is the key point for the different states and regions for their own upgrading for Education. Can we get qualified Ministers of Education for each State and Region (or do we call it District?). Even for the Union Minister for Education, we need to have a qualified person who knows Education very well and who has voice and authority over these State and Regional Ministers for Education.

That is why we need have clear-cut instructions as to who's who and nowadays how will be the lineups so that the different orders from the

Minister for Education will go properly step by step to reach to schools or to the students and teachers.

The writer will continue to discuss all these Education matters in the coming weeks.

The next thing the writer wants to take into consideration is the experiences of all these top leaders in the field of Education.

For the Higher Education Department, i.e. for the Tertiary Level of Education, there are different Universities and Colleges . For these Universities and Colleges, those experienced Professors and Rectors have already enough experience in their own Departments and in their own Universities, there is no problem for them to administer these Universities and Colleges. They all have good experienced in their own Departments, Colleges and Universities , their administration can go very well and very smoothly. The writer will continue the discussions in this field too in the coming articles.

But, for the Basic Education field, the writer wants to mention their experiences as Basic Education teachers, so that they should have understanding, sympathy, empathy and far sight in their decision makings . Only when they have experienced as Basic Education teachers, can these decision makers can see what to do, how to do and when to do what they have to do in Basic Education. That's why the writer wants to emphasize their experience in the field of Education before they become decision makers in this field.

One more thing the writer wants to emphasize here is the distribution of labour, authority and responsibility.

If our country becomes a Federal State, every State and Division or Region should have the responsibility and authority for their own State and Division. Everything will be decided according to their own needs, capacity, strength, difficulties and limitations. So they can see their own advantages and disadvantages.

Then comes the role of not only “Equality” but also the role of “Equity”. This is another topic we need to discuss thoroughly.

So for the time being, the writer wants to stop this article (3) only at this point. We will discuss more in the coming weeks .

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Htaukkyant War Cemetery is situated 16 miles away in the north of Yangon on the side of Yangon-Pyay car road in Mingladon Township. **PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE**

War Cemetery of Allied Forces In Myanmar

By Maung Thar (Archaeology)



Htaukkyant War Cemetery. **PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE**

In the history of the world, there were two world wars with the first one broken out in AD 1914-1918 in which 17 million of people died and over 20 million were wounded and the second one taken place in AD 1939-1945 saw over 60 million dead and wounded. Not only soldiers but the citizens also died in the battlefields across the world. After the world wars scourge of wars were witnessed everywhere and the war cemeteries across the world are one of the epitome of scourge of wars.

After the world wars the cemeteries for the fallen soldiers of allied forces were established to place the tombs of the soldiers. The family members can visit to the tombs of the fallen soldiers and make a memorial pray for or pay respect at the tomb. Many years later the war cemeteries have become well-known historical sites for the people to visit.

Myanmar and its War Cemeteries

After 2nd World War Britain built two war cemeteries in Yangon and one in Thanbyu Zayat of Mon State. The first war cemetery in Yangon was established in Sanchaung Township and officially opened in 1945 under the name of Yangon War Cemetery having 1381 tombs.

Another war cemetery was built in Htaukkyant of Mingladon Township, Yangon in 1951. Htaukkyant War Cemetery is the biggest of all and it accommodates 6374 tombs of the allied soldiers fallen in the battle fields of Myanmar in the 1st and 2nd World Wars. Another war cemetery of Myanmar is in Thanbyuzayat which was

built in 1946 to accommodate the 3771 tombs of the allied forces soldier fallen in Myanmar battle fields.

Yangon War Cemetery

The first War Cemetery of allied forces in Myanmar was opened in 1945 near Hanthawaddy Roundabout, Sanchaung Township. The British could drive out the Japanese forces from Yangon in May 1945 and took over Yangon under British rule again and built the first war cemetery of Myanmar at the above-said place. The bodies of the allied soldiers buried in the environs of Yangon and the British prisoners of war who died in Yangon prison were moved to the place of Yangon War Cemetery. 35 bodies of allied forces who died in Yangon in the 1st world war and buried in the precinct of the Yangon army compound and 1 body buried in Pazundaung Township were also transferred to Yangon War Cemetery in 1948.

In Yangon War Cemetery there are 1381 tombs and 86 out of them have no record on the tomb. There is a stone inscription both in English and Myanmar languages that says “This land for laying the dead bodies of honourable soldiers of Navy, Army and Air Force of allied forces is the merit of Myanmar people”.

Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery

The Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery is situated on one side of Thanbyuzayat-Maungmakan car road and it is a large area having 25 acres of land. It accommodates the tombs of 3149 soldiers



Yangon War Cemetery, the first War Cemetery of allied forces in Myanmar was opened in 1945 near Hanthawaddy Roundabout, Sanchaung Township. **PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE**

of allied forces and 621 Dutch soldiers who died in construction of Death Railway Line connecting Myanmar and Thailand in the 2nd World War. Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery was opened by General Aung San and Governor Sir Hubert Rance on 18 December 1946. It is a tour destination popular among the tourists who visited Mon State. The town Thanbyuzayat is situated at the junction of Yangon-Dawei railway line, Yangon-Kawthoung car road and Mawlamyine-Kyaikhani car road. It is 40 miles away in the south of Mawlamyaing and 40 miles in the north of Ye town.

Japan had started to construct a 250 miles-long railway line across the border-line of Myanmar and Thailand in October 1942 during the 2nd World War and could have finished in December 1943 taking 14 months to finish. The railway line started at Thanbyuzayat of Myanmar and ended at Ban Paung of Thailand, with 70 miles share on Myanmar side.

Many Myanmar people and prisoners of war suffered so heavy casualties in this construction works that the railway line had been called “Death Railway Line”. This railway line was constructed by the people and prisoners of war, starting from Thanbyuzayat through Phaya Thonesu border valley to Ban Paung of Thailand linking with Bangkok-Singapore railway line.

It was known that 80,000 indigenous people of Myanmar and 13,000 prisoners of war died of malnutrition, inclement weather, lack of health care service and the torture of fascist Japan in the course of building the Death Railway Line. According to the record the dead bodies were buried along the railway. The healthy and strong men from all over the country were recruited as forced labour for railway construction and 80,000 to 100,000 workers were dead in this dreadful construction. Out of 61,000 prisoners of war, 12,399 died of the extremely hard works. Out of 270,000 Asian people including Myanmar 90,000 died in the construction works according to the forced labour record. According to the book of “Force labour record of own experience” written by Linyone Thit Lwin the railway line is about 260 miles long and the statistics shows 47 POW and 346 Asian forced labours were dead every mile of the rail line.

Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery is cool, calm and beautiful, but it is manifesting the scourge of war.

Htaukkyant War Cemetery

It was named after the Htaukkyant village in Mingladon Township and is situated 16 miles away in the north of Yangon on the side of Yangon-Pyay car road. Htaukkyant is just a big village



Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery is situated on one side of Thanbyuzayat-Maungmakan car road in Mon State. **PHOTO: CWGC**



and as it is located at the junction of Yangon-Bago and Yangon-Pyay highway road, it has become a busy commercial place.

The green-coloured signboard set up at the entrance of the cemetery has the writing in both English and Myanmar languages describing that “the land on which the cemetery has been established is the calm and serene precinct where the fallen soldiers of Navy, Airforce and Army of allied forces in the 1st and 2nd world wars lie forever and the bereaved ones come to honour their hero.”

There are 6,374 tombs of the soldiers of allied forces died in Myanmar battle fields during 1st and 2nd world wars. 52 tombs are for the soldiers fallen in 1st world war and 867 tombs are for the anonymous. There are also 1,819 tombs for Indian soldiers. It is interesting in having a tomb of a Myanmar citizen, 31 years old Captain Sein Tun of Burma Sappers & Miners.

As most of the fallen soldiers are Christians the tombs are found usually having Crucifix on it. The tombs of the Buddhist soldiers have stupa image along with the name of the deceased. For muslim soldiers the records on the tombs were written in Arabic language and the tombs were placed in group separately from the tombs of other religion.

Most of the fallen soldiers died in the battle fields of Meikhtila, Sittway, Mandalay and Sahmaw. However, it is difficult to keep the remains of the dead soldiers in the localities where they died, so they were brought to Yangon and buried at Htaukkyant War Cemetery. The remains of the dead soldiers who died in Myitkyina battlefield were first buried at Chindit Cemetery of Myitkyina. Those remains were also disinterred and brought to Yangon and buried at Htaukkyant War Cemetery.

1 remain of body from Hinthada, 8 remains from Meikhtila cantonment area, 4 from Thayet, 4 from Tanmakan, 12 from Mandalay and 22 from Maymyo cantonment area, 51 body remains in total were brought to Htaukkyant War Cemetery. 19 body remains of the soldiers died in 1st world war were buried in Aungban, Pathein, Kwanchankone, Loikaw, Mongton, Pyay, Pynmana and

Shwebo cemeteries. Remains of some soldiers died in 2nd world war buried in the jungle and village cemeteries were also transferred to Htaukkyant War Cemetery.

Seven soldiers whose remains were buried in Htaukkyant War Cemetery were soldiers awarded Victoria Cross by British Government. Two out of them were Indian soldiers. On the memorial stone in the cemetery were recorded their name, date of birth and date of death together with a writing “They died for all free man” in Myanmar, English, Hindi and Urdu languages. On the big stone pillars in the middle of the cemetery were recorded the name of the 27,000 allied soldiers died in Myanmar battlefields. Htaukkyant War Cemetery was opened in 1951 and famous among the other countries. This cemetery is the most frequented place among the Asian War Memorial sites.

Htaukkyant War Cemetery opens daily except Sunday from 7am to 5pm. This cemetery is maintained by the Commonwealth War Cemetery Commission. Commonwealth countries have to contribute the expense of the maintenance of the cemetery in proportion depending upon the number of tombs of their nationality. So, the cemetery could have allowed the people to visit the site free of charge.

The families of the fallen soldiers from the different countries usually give a visit to the cemetery and make memorial services at the cemetery. Local visitors also visit Htaukkyant War Cemetery for recreation.

People visiting the war cemetery might be aware of the evil effects of the wars and long for the peaceful societies of the world. Though the war cemeteries have become the places for people to recreate, they epitomize the human history with evil consequence of the war—

(Translated by Khin Maung Win–GNLM)

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SUNDAY COMICS

ha ha

HTOO



PEOPLE
WILL BE
PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY
JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2017



The only thing that can carry us through this peace process is the determination to see peace in the country

A wide-ranging interview with Filipino Ambassador to Myanmar Eduardo Kapunan by the Global New Light of Myanmar and MRTV touched upon democratic and economic reform, peace process, bilateral relations between Philippines and Myanmar and southern Philippines issue.

Q: Myanmar and the Philippines have established diplomatic relations since 1956, which is longer than ASEAN's existence. When President Duterte visited Myanmar in March this year, he praised the enduring bond between the two countries. Please share your reflections on Myanmar-Philippines diplomatic relations.

A: The present relationship between the two countries is quite good but of course there is still a lot of room for it to grow better. With the present state of communications between the two countries I have high hopes that it will get better.

Q: Myanmar and Philippines have been cooperating in areas of agriculture, labor, trade and investment. During President Duterte's state visit, the two countries signed a MOU on food security and agricultural cooperation. Could you elaborate about this cooperation?

A: This cooperation is really an exchange of ideas on how to approach food security. Philippines have had a lot of concern over food security and somehow we have learnt a lot of lessons in that regard. Myanmar being a newly democratic republic maybe we can share from the past experiences that we have to include lessons from the past mistake that we have had.

Exchange of ideas in food security is not a one way process, it is going to be a two way process, learning from Myanmar and Myanmar learning from the Philippines as well.

Q: We have heard of the armed conflict in Marawi City located on the island of Mindanao, why did it get worse?

A: We have to separate the incident in Marawi with the larger armed conflict Mindanao. The other players such as the Moro National Liberation Front, the Islamic Liberation Front which came after the MNLF, and then here comes the BIFF, Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters. Most of these are rooted in certain perceived inequality in the social situations in the Philippines. By and large, the major cause of the rebellion is actually injustice. So the Philippines government has moved forward to really improve the justice system, not only the filing cases in court but also in economic justice. There is this social justice system that also involves the social mobility of the people.



Filipino Ambassador to Myanmar Eduardo Kapunan speaks during the interview at the Embassy of Philippines in Yangon. **PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR**

Once we sit at the table in a face-to-face conversation, we somehow find a way to connect with the other's challenges.

There is this political injustice where the participation of the people is not ensured in governance. So all of this now is being addressed.

The recent Marawi incident was brought about by another dimension and it has this extremist color. It is brought about by the fundamentalist forces which some Filipinos try to connect with as the events in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan were unfolding. If I can recall clearly, most of the Muslims who fought in the war between Afghanistan and Russia went to Bosnia and Herzegovina after it ended and then fought another war. After that, they all came home to the Philippines and established this kind of group now.

The religions they mention in this conflict is something that the Philippines is so careful about not to exasperate the situation. For one thing, the Philippines Institution gives religious freedom to any religion who wants to propagate themselves in the country. That is also being addressed with the help of the other Muslim countries who are not really inclined to the extremist side.

The Marawi incident is the first display of the force of the IS connected group in the Philippines. The government now is bent on destroying this and not the religious belief but those actions that have caused dismemberment and poverty in the region and that have caused injustice

to the civilians who are not really involved in all of this. Our president is quite strong in this and very, very particular about ending this crisis.

Q: What are the challenges and prospect of peace process in Southern Philippines?

A: The prospect is very bright. In our experience, once we sit at the table in a face-to-face conversation, we somehow find a way to connect with the other's challenges. And so far even the MILF and the MNLF have signified the intention to help the government subdue the Marawi incident. So I would expect that the prospects are very high. There are quite a few challenges that I cannot consider insurmountable. Some of the major challenges are really that our government leadership changes almost every six years. So there is no continuity sometimes in general directions. But so far in the past three administrations, the direction has been very consistent and if gets to the level where consistency can be assured, the solution to the problem can be achieved in a lesser time than what a lot of people expect.

Q: What are the impacts of socio-economy concerning the rule of law, peace and stability in the Southern Philippines?

A: In areas where there is so-called no rule of law, I disagree with because there is always the rule of law. Otherwise if there is no rule of law a rebel can exist without being neutralized. There is rule of law but of course there are challenges to the implementation of the rule of law and a lot of questions are paused in that regard.

On the area of impact on the general economic situation in the country, if you look at the conflict areas; let's look at Mindanao for example; basically you can divide it into two; the developed Mindanao and the underdeveloped Mindanao. The developed Mindanao is where the local governance is strong and this is where opportunities are abound. People can go with their democratic life and they can really pursue a good future. The underdeveloped one lacks the education system that is good, social mobility is questionable, but it will belong to local government authorities.

The direction set with national government sometimes is not effectively implemented in the local area. Personally if there is anybody I have to blame about this problem, I will blame first and foremost the local government in that area. They are the ones responsible for giving down the directions of national governance and they are also the ones who feel the burden of poverty, the burden of injustice in the localities and they have to do something about it.

SEE PAGE-H

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Q: Comparing with the Mindanao crisis we have witnessed the rise of terrorism in Rakhine State, so what is your opinion on the current state in Rakhine and can we say that the two situations are similar?

A: I would not venture towards that direction, for one thing the conditions are different, and the cultural dimensions are different and even the root causes are really different. I would not compare both sides as they are both different situations. But there is one thing that maybe I can say and that is whatever the reason I still stick to my original statement that it is the issue of local governance.

Q: We have religious freedom in Rakhine State but there are problems as you mentioned, based on inequality and also lack of participation.

A: And those are problems that the local government should be addressing first and foremost. That is why I went back to failed local governance.

Q: Myanmar cooperates fully with the Philippines for the ASEAN chairmanship, so what is your inspiration on ASEAN as it is going to celebrate its 50th anniversary in August this year.

A: My wish is that ASEAN will get



State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte before the start of the 30th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Manila, Philippines on 29 April 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

stronger and more assertive in terms of the relationship between ASEAN and the rest of the world. All other countries are assertive as far as their interest is concerned. My personal belief is ASEAN is like having a brother and a sister. Your brother and your sister, whatever bad they will do, I cannot neglect him or her because we are blood siblings. There is more to

just hearsay to destroy the relationship. It should run deeper not only in the bloods of the leaders but also in the bloods of the citizens. I feel proud being ASEAN.

My vision for ASEAN is for stronger relationship, for stronger leadership and a more assertive relationship with the rest of the world.

Q: What is your impression on My-

anmar's peace process and democracy?

A: I want to congratulate Myanmar. You have gone a long way already in your democracy. Of course there is still a lot to be done. But as I have observed the peace process, in fact I have talked with the State Counsellor and I congratulated her and she said there's nothing to congratulate about. But every single inch you travel positively, is worth congratulating. I understand that the peace process did not go through a bed of roses but through a bed of thorns. The only thing that can carry us through this peace process is the determination to see peace in the country. Peace and development are two things that must go together. Just one or the other cannot make your country progress, it has to be both. It will require a lot of sacrifices from the government, the rebels, the soldiers, and also the civilians. Civilians have been hurt, our brothers and sisters have been hurt so for them to accept the peace process as a pact of their lives they had to offer sacrifices. You know, you can sacrifice the hurt that you have after losing a friend and that's the same with them. They have to forgive also, just for the sake of the peace process. This sacrifice will have to be made by everybody, even those innocent bystanders. ■

A TALE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10

A Mighty rhinoceros cannot protect itself by own strength

By Khin Maung Phone Ko

God the creator made a white rhinoceros with a weight of 4000 kg and an 18-inch horn. He is the mightiest land animal so far on earth. He is also proud with his mighty build and a sharp horn. But God asked him although you are strong, be you become humble like a dove. But, that he did not listen to his master creator.

God said that you may have enemy one day. Instead he replied that I am

strong and mighty, and I can fight my enemy and defend myself. The God of the creation does not like a proud created one, whom he want him to be humble.

So, God said to the rhino that, you are proud with the weapon horn that I give. And I want to take back your horn, so that I can protect you. But he insists that once He gives him, He cannot take back. Thus, he ignored and walk out from the Master creator. But God warns him you are not safe without my protection as I always give protection to my created creatures.

After many years has passed and the rhino is reigning the wild jungle. Then came one day another God's created human who loves the big horn of the rhino. The man can sell to other man for money. Many years has passed and man create a gun and can kill animals. He ,the man kill rhino with gun to cut the horn for money.

These day rhino poaching is to such an extent that African rhinos are near extinction. Thus, the creator God give love to another men who loved His created

beings to prevent killing of the Rhinos. Thus, God the creator gives protection to the mighty Rhinoceros. Otherwise the mighty rhinos cannot protect by its own strength.

The Bible verses:

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. (Psalm 92:1)

You are my refuge and my shield, I have put my hope in your word. (Psalm 119:114, NIV)

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