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19TH 2018 JULY

★ 71ST MARTYRS' DAY ★



★ GENERAL AUNG SAN



★ THAKHIN MYA



★ DEEDOK U BA CHO



★ U BA WIN



★ SAO SAN TUN



★ MAHN BA KHAING



★ U RAZAK



★ U OHN MAUNG



★ YEBAW KO HTWE

OUR TRIBUTE TO MARTYRS ON 71ST MARTYRS' DAY

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Coordination meeting for maintenance of Shwedagon Pagoda and Singuttara Hill held

A COORDINATION meeting over the maintenance of the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Singuttara Hill was held at 1.30 pm yesterday at the Ancient Buddha Images Pavilion (Tazaung) of the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon.

Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko said that measures are to be taken for the maintenance of the pagoda and its Singuttara Hill, in cooperation with experts, officials concerned and members of the board of trustees.

Then, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein explained some facts about the



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein attend the coordination meeting for maintaining the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Singuttara Hill in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

pagoda and Deputy Minister discussed the stages of main- Hill. Next, Ministry of Natural for Construction U Kyaw Lin tenance of the Singuttara Resources and Environmental

Conservation Geologist Dr. Yu Maung and member of the board of trustees U Tin Hla discussed the maintenance tasks for the Shwedagon Pagoda and Singuttara Hill.

Later, regional ministers, officials and experts from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Myanmar Engineering Society and Yangon Heritage Trust (YHT) proposed matters regarding the work process. Following this, the union minister delivered the closing speech.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Myanmar Journalists Association holds third national-level conference

THE Myanmar Journalists Association (MJA) held its third national-level conference at Sky Star Hotel yesterday morning.

MJA Patron U Ko Ko acted as the panel chairperson and a congratulatory speech was given by Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun.

U Ko Ko also gave a short speech saying that the soon-to-be elected executive committee members would face a multitude of challenges in the upcoming term.

“The challenges have to be overcome,” said U Ko Ko. “This is why the media members should not stick to one place, but rather, branch out into multi-media.

We need to be multi-skilled in order to overcome future challenges. In order to rebuild everything, head towards multi-skills.

Prepare for challenges. Every member, with love for the country and the citizens, with united minds and with an attachment to journalism skills, must endeavour for the association to last over a hundred years.”

Next, MJA Chairman U Thiha Saw said, “Journalists, regardless of what they work with or where, if they follow the moral code and work for the long-term, they will become great journalists.

A Myanmar Journalists



Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun delivers the speech at the third national-level conference of Myanmar Journalists Association in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: YE HTUT**

Association comprising such great journalists will continue to succeed, I believe.”

Next, Representatives from Myanmar Writers Association, Myanmar Journalists Network (MJN), Myanmar Journalists Union (MJU) and Burma News International (BNI) read formal messages sent by their respective organisations at the MJA Third National-Level Conference.

Later, MJA Vice-Chair U Myat Khaing explained the mo-

tive behind the conference and the amendment drafts.

Next, MJA General Secretary U Kyaw Swar Min (D Min), MJA Recruiting Executive U Tin Hlaing (Hotel and Tourism) and MJA Finance Executive Daw Ei Ei Tin (Ei Thu) read, submitted and sought approval for the association's constitution and progress reports for projects carried out in the association's second term (2015-2018), including the MJA operations and special cases, the recruiting

executive's report and finance executive's reports.

Next, MJA Joint-Secretary (1) U Ye Min Oo read out the list of individuals and organisations that had contributed and supported MJA's operations, to be inducted as honorary members.

The second part of the conference continued at noon with MJA Vice-Chair U Myat Khaing announcing, on behalf of the executive committee, the resignation of executive committee

members from the second term.

The Selection and Appointment Commission then announced the names of the selected executive members. The executive members took their oath in front of the commission.

The third national-level conference appointed the following individuals for positions in the Myanmar Journalists Association: U Thiha Saw as Patron, U Myat Khaing as Chairman, U Win Nyein as Vice-Chair (1), U Kyaw Swar Min as Vice-Chair (2), U Ye Min Oo as Vice-Chair (3), U Thar Zaw as General Secretary and 37 executive committee members. The conference appointed U Ko Ko as a member of the Myanmar Press Council and U Myat Khaing, U Kyaw Swar Min and Daw Ei Ei Tin as candidates.

The newly-elected MJA Chairman U Myat Khaing then spoke of taking responsibility and expressed his gratitude, before bringing the ceremony to a close.

The Myanmar Journalists Association was formed on 11 August 2012 and appoints new executive committee members once every three years.

The second term began in 2015 and the third and current term begins in 2018. —Yi Yi Myint, Mi Mi Phyo ■

Only working in unison can benefit all

If you wish for the country to be developed and prosperous, all of the country's resources – financial, natural and human – have to be used together for the equal development of all races.

If the Bamar does what they want, if the Kachin does what they want, if the Shan, Kachin and Chin all do not cooperate, there will be no benefits for anyone. Only when you try working in unison will you know its benefits.

(Excerpt from a speech made by Bogyoke Aung San at the Panglong Dinner on February 11, 1947)



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with MISIS

STATE Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with MISIS members led by U Nyunt Maung Shein, retired ambassador and Chairman of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS) at the MISIS office on Thantaman Street in Dagon Township, Yangon, yesterday morning.

First of all, MISIS Chairman retired Ambassador U Nyunt Maung Shein gave a briefing about the current activities of MISIS which had been established by a Presidential Order. He explained in 2018 the institute has been performing its role as chair of ASEAN-ISIS,

rotating chair of the Network of East Asia Think Tanks (NEAT), the institute's vision and hopes for the future, and how MISIS wishes to assist by submitting recommendations and advice for the benefit of the country and its people.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi then had a discussion with the Chairman and members of MISIS and gave necessary guidance.

Present at the meeting were Deputy Minister for the Office of the President U Min Thu and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Myint Thu.—Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with MISIS members led by U Nyunt Maung Shein at the MISIS Office in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi signing the guest book at the Thanlyin Naval Station. **PHOTO: MNA**



The State Counsellor welcomed by Rear-Admiral Htay Naing and senior military officers at the Thanlyin Naval Station. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor visits historic frigate UBS Mayu

FROM PAGE-16

The ship was renamed Mayu, after the Mayu River in Rakhine State, where Myanmar naval forces participated in heavy battles alongside allied forces.

The UBS Mayu fought in various battles on the Tatmadaw's side after Myanmar gained independence in 1948.

She served on the frontlines at the capture of Insein, the battle of Thanlyin-KyauitKhauk and the capture of Patheingyi in 1948, the capture of Kyaukpadaung in 1949, and the capture of Mawlamyine in 1950.

The ship, which was in service for 40 years, was used in military operations and safeguarded Myanmar's territorial

waters and coastline. As the ship's condition declined in its later years, a decision was made at the 262nd Defence Council Executive Meeting on 2 August 1979 to decommission the UBS Mayu. Thus, the UBS Mayu, carrying the history of independence with it, was preserved as a museum ship at Thanlyin Naval Station.—Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi tours historic frigate UBS Mayu at the Thanlyin Naval Station yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects development work in Dagon Seikkan, Inndine Garrison

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspected the construction site of Myanmar Retired Military Veteran residential buildings (Lay Daunt Kan) in Dagon Seikkan Township in Yangon Region yesterday.

The senior general and entourage inspected the construction progress of the residences and a modern egg-laying chicken farm and gave instructions, as needed.

Next, the senior general and entourage visited the basic education high school in No.1 Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Ward, located next to the veteran's residential build-



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects the construction progress of the modern egg-laying chicken farm in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

ings, and inspected the school library, food stalls, cleanliness of the school environment, the landfill for a football field, and the classrooms as students

learned their lessons.

The senior general and entourage then visited the No.1 Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Ward Cottage Hospi-

tal and inspected the operating room refurbished by the Tatmadaw. The senior general also met with patients and offered words of encouragement.

Next, the senior general and entourage visited the Tatmadaw Hospital in Inndine Garrison. The hospital commander explained the progress of implementing the four major operations in establishing a garrison, medical services provided in the hospital, how mobile medical teams have been providing healthcare and health protection services to the local residents. The senior general gave advice and instructions as necessary.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Attorney-General's Office confers education stipends and awards for academic achievements

THE Union Attorney-General's Office held a ceremony to confer education stipends for the academic year 2018-2019 and awards for outstanding academic achievements for the academic year 2017-2018 at their meeting hall yesterday.

Union Attorney-General U Htun Htun Oo delivered the keynote speech and said this was the seventh time the UAG's Office was conferring stipends for education and the third time it was awarding academic achievements. He said the UAG's Office was able to provide Ks4.97 million as education stipends to 147 students this academic year. He added that Ks2 million was conferred as education stipends to one



Ceremony to confer education stipends and awards for outstanding academic achievements for the academic year 2018-2019 held yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

student with six distinctions, two students with five distinctions, two students with two distinctions and nine students with one distinction in the matriculation exam.

The union attorney general said the purpose of conferring education stipends was to support the education of staff children and to encourage other students to try harder. Every

parent works hard to ensure their children are educated, and education reflects a person's self-worth and develops a strong foundation for making the right decisions in life and for maintaining a livelihood, said the union attorney general. He added that only education has true value in a person's life and implored students to be diligent so they may become outstanding and educated individuals.

Present at the ceremony were Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint, directors-general, deputy directors-general, students with outstanding academic achievements, parents, invited guests and other officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■

ORCHID hotel to shut down due to slow business

By Nyein Nyein

THE ORCHID hotel, located at the corner of Botataung Pagoda road and Ahnawyahtar road, Yangon, will shut down at the end of this year, according to the National Trading Company.

"Our ORCHID hotel will shut down on 31 December. We will not work in the hotel industry anymore," said U Htay Aung, managing director of the

National Trading Company.

The ORCHID hotel will shut down as a result of reduced income from the hotel business industry, said U Htay Aung at a media conference of Nan Myaing hotel and Let-Khok-Kone hotel at the ORCHID hotel hall on 17 July.

"The income of ORCHID hotel has also slightly declined. This is the main reason why we shut down the hotel," he added.

The National Trading

Company will shut down the ORCHID hotel and as such, has also returned Nan Myaing Hotel in Pyin-Oo-Lwin town, Mandalay Region, rented from the government, to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism on 14 July.

Similarly, the company will return Let-Khok-Kone hotel, also rented from the government.

The company will pay compensation to the employees

working in the three hotels, in accordance with the law.

Recently, U Htay Aung, managing director of the National Trading Company, was being sued by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism for failing to pay the rental fee since April 2015.

Currently, the company is facing a trial in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, it owes the ministry Ks1.3 billion as of June. ■

State Counsellor: My father's successful negotiation to gain independence is unique

By Htun Han
Photo: Shwe Ko Lay

Following is a translation of an interview conducted with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the occasion of the 71st Anniversary Martyrs' Day:

Q. I believe you have much to say about Martyrs' Day. Let us hear the words you have to say for those who want to hear from you.

A. In fact, I don't have anything to say. I just want to listen to what the people would want to say. How do the people view Martyrs' Day now? Especially those who hadn't seen my father. Most of the people haven't seen him. There would only be a few remaining from my father's time. Middle-aged persons and youths would not even have been born. Instead of me talking about Martyrs' Day, I would like to hear how most of the people view it. Why is it valued? Why is it stressed? I want to hear more.

Q. I don't think I should be saying these words and digging up old wounds. But I'm asking this because he was the national leader of our country. According to some writings, on the day Bogyoke Aung San was assassinated, he was not wearing his usual dress, and before he left his house that day, he held you close and said goodbye. How do you feel when you visualise this scene?

A. I didn't give much thought about the dress. Of course, I read about that day. On that day, he wore a *cheik* silk longyi. But I don't think dresses are an important matter. As a member of a government, he might have thought he ought to wear it, and so he wore it. But as for hugging me, it's nothing unusual, as he normally says good bye to all his children before leaving for office.

Q. As you are now performing the heavy responsibilities of the country, when and in what circumstances do you remember your father? Is it when you face difficulties or when you achieve success?

A. I don't want to say I sorrowfully miss him. And I don't like the idea of (the Myanmar saying) remembering your



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi being interviewed at her residence.

mother only when you trip and fall. Not only my father, I often remember both my parents. I remember them with gratitude. Whatever obstacle or challenge comes my way, thanks to my parents, I can face them all. Due to my mother's teaching, instead of grieving for my father, I remember him more with thankfulness.

Q. From what you heard about Bogyoke and his work from your mother Daw Khin Kyi, what would be the one that you remember most?

A. I heard a lot. But what I remember most was not directly about my father. My mother was on the movie censor board and she had to go and censor movies once a week. But she would not encourage us watching movies. Sometimes, on holidays, she would take me along to her work. We had to leave very early in the morning. She would not select

a good movie to watch. Rather, she would consider it as her job to watch whatever others won't and try to censor it. Once, during my holidays, she selected a good movie that a child would wish to see. I don't remember what movie it was, but I was looking forward to it because it was a good movie that I wouldn't have a chance to see often.

But a day before the movie show, my mother needed to travel somewhere, outside of Yangon, I don't know where, but some place, like Bago. As my mother knew I wanted to watch that movie very much, she said I can go along with her friend. The manager at her work knew us, and as far as I can remember, censor board staff could bring along three or four guests with them. As I had been there before, I knew my mother's friend also. But I told my mother that I couldn't go without her. I could

go along with her, because she worked there. Without her, I didn't want to go. I wanted to watch the movie, but since my mother had made her decision, I felt upset and laid down in my bed.

When we were young, we had to take a nap in the afternoon. While I was lying in bed, my mother's friend came in and asked my plan for the next day. My mother answered her by saying, "She's not going. Bogyoke's daughter said it is not right (to go see the movie, when the censor board member Daw Khin Kyi was not present)." This is something that I remembered most from the many things my mother had said. Both my mother and her friend knew I was pretending to be asleep, and so my mother deliberately said that. I remember this vividly.

Q. As a daughter of a coun-

try's leader, national leader and a martyred leader Bogyoke Aung San, how did your mother Daw Khin Kyi bring you up? Can you please share with us?

A. What I just said was to highlight how she brought me up. Some parents want their child to listen to whatever they say. My mother accepted my opinion that I shouldn't be going, and I valued her approach. I think I have things to remember from both my parents. My mother is straightforward, honest and disciplined. Some friends would even say that she is even more disciplined than my father.

Q. What are the similarities in beliefs between Bogyoke Aung San and you in serving the country? Are there any differences?

A. It is difficult for me to answer this question. It is better for others to judge this because it is difficult to see yourself truthfully. The situations when my father was alive, the experiences he had to pass through life would not be the same as mine. It is difficult to compare when (situations and circumstances) are not the same. Of course, there are many difficulties. My father faced many difficulties, and so did I. The aims that we have for the country — to become better, stable, developed and united — are the same, I think. In working to achieve these aims, and how we handle the situations would not be the same. So it would be hard to see how similar or different we are.

Q. Is there any unique and most successful thing in Bogyoke's endeavour for the country's independence?

A. There can't be only one single situation. In history, it is difficult to say when something was unique. In some cases, for example, in world's history, there were some unique wars that were fought. But history is a continuous thing. It is not a single-day or a single-year event. So we cannot pick up one single moment or incident. However, in my father's case, his successful negotiation in achieving his aim to gain independence is unique.

SEE PAGE-7

UEC member inspects posting of voters' lists in Yangon

UNION Election Commission (UEC) member U Myint Naing, accompanied by Director-General of the Office of the UEC U Khin Maung Oo and Chairman of the Yangon Region election sub-commission U Kyi Myint, yesterday inspected the posting of voters' lists in Tamway Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency and Seikkan Region Hluttaw Constituency and other preparations for the by-election to be held on 3 November.

U Myint Kyi and party inspected voters' lists displayed for public at the offices of the Seikkan Township Hluttaw Constituency (2) in Ye Yeikthar Ward, where township election sub-commission Chairman U Min Swe explained election preparations. They proceeded to Kyar Kwethit



Union Election Commission member U Myint Naing and party inspect posting of voters' list in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

(east) and Kyaukmyaung, where they also inspected electoral list displayed for public and met with township election sub-commission Chairman U Thein Paing. He instructed the officials to

make systematic arrangements for holding the elections so that eligible voters do not lose their chance to vote, and to compile right and accurate voting lists.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Japan's GS Yuasa to invest in Myanmar via Thai unit

MAJOR Japanese automotive and industrial battery maker GS Yuasa International Ltd. is scheduled to start operations in Myanmar early next year through Siam GS Battery Myanmar Ltd., the new local sales arm of its Thai unit, by providing charging services for batteries imported from Thailand.

Siam GS Battery Co., in which the Kyoto-based Japanese company (GS Yuasa International) owns a 60 per cent stake, plans to invest 250 million baht (Ks10.78 billion) for its operations in oth-

er Southeast Asian countries, including a charging station in Myanmar.

Siam GS's overall sales totaled 6 billion baht last year, and exports accounted for 20 per cent, with around half of them going to Myanmar. It aims to increase its sales by 8 per cent this year.

Last year, Siam GS sold 300,000 units in Myanmar through local agents.

The Thai joint venture of the company plans to invest 1 billion baht to increase annual output capacity by 25 per cent to 5 million

units by the end of 2020, as well as to expand its overseas business, said Prakasit Phornprapha, executive director of the local unit.

GS Yuasa International holds an estimated 8 per cent market share in the global automobile battery market in the year to March 2018, according to the company's latest financial statement.

The company's Thailand unit, Siam GS Battery Co., holds a 40 per cent share in Thailand's replacement car battery market.

—(Kyodo/GNLM) ■

Appointment as Permanent Secretary

The Union Government has appointed Director General Daw Naing Thet Oo of the Department of Administration, Training and Research from the Office of the Union Auditor General, to concurrently assume the duties of Permanent Secretary.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Defence Ministry, UNCTFMR meet to prevent recruitment of minors

THE Defence Services Ministry's Committee for Prevention Against Recruiting Minors and the UN Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (UNCTFMR) held a high-level meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, focusing on future cooperation between the two sides.

The meeting opened with remarks by Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win. At the meeting, the two sides discussed cooperation between them and the implementing of plans to prevent the recruitment of minors.

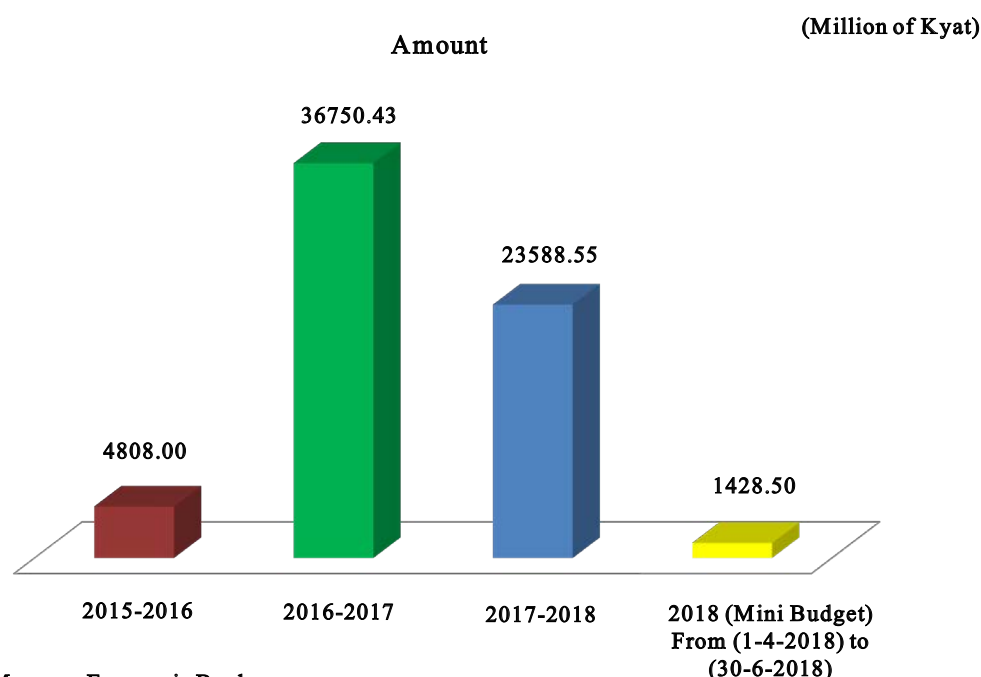
Also present at the meet-

ing were senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of International Cooperation, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Office of the Union Attorney-General, two joint chairmen, and members of the UNCTFMR from UNRC, UNICEF, WFP, ILO, UNHCR, and Save the Children International.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister Lt-Gen Sein Win delivers the speech at the high-level meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Yearly SMEs Loan Status of JICA Two-Step Loan Project



Source : Myanma Economic Bank
Information Unit : Central Statistical Organization



Steve Marshall, left, the New Zealand ambassador, and Nicholas Coppel, the Australian ambassador, at a reception last night hosted by Pernod Ricard at the Sedona Hotel in Yangon. Pernod Ricard held a ceremony yesterday evening to officially introduce Pernod Ricard to Myanmar's beverage industry. Pernod Ricard is a major producer of wine to Australia, New Zealand and many other countries.

PHOTO: MARK ANGELES

State Counsellor: My father's successful negotiation to gain independence is unique

FROM PAGE-5

Q. In paying respects to the Martyrs, do you now as a State leader and State Counsellor have changed feelings from when you were young?

A. I'm paying respects as a daughter, just like the rest of the (Martyrs') families and not as a State Counsellor. I'm a State Counsellor, only while I'm performing this duty.

But I'm a daughter of my father forever. And I'm paying respects to him now as a family member and a daughter. So there is no difference, whatsoever.

Q. A poem honouring Martyrs' Day and written by Saya Zaw Gyi in 1964 was noted to be your favourite. What

are your feelings about that poem?

A. The poem was not about grieving. It is about taking lessons from whatever happens, be it good or bad. This poem shows that lessons can be taken from anything. Saya Zaw Gyi is a very talented poet. The rhymes are perfect, and the words chosen are beautiful and appropriate. And it is not about grieving without any meaning. It is about creating good and higher morals for the next generations to follow, based on lessons learnt from the past. That is why I like this poem.

Q. What do you want to say to future generations in regards to Martyrs' Day?

A. This is something I say

often. If you do something good, it will be the best for you. I always say this to the parents.

The best inheritance they can give to their children is for they themselves to live correctly. A lot of money can be left behind, but it can disappear within a day or a night. There is nothing you can do about it. The best inheritance is to live a good and noble life. Youngsters have a lot of opportunities.

They have many opportunities to become a good and noble person one day and to be a benefit to others. They have opportunities and time for it. As they become older, opportunities and time dwindle.

I want to tell youths to use their time in a most valuable way for them. In that case, they are remembering the Martyrs' real desires than just simply

grieving for the Martyrs, like others. Some want to become well-known and famous like the Martyrs. But they don't want to struggle and face difficulties in the way the Martyrs did. That is why it is important to draw the right conclusions and take the right lessons. It is your own personal decision on how you draw conclusions and take lessons. I could not say how everyone should be thinking this way or that.

Q. Peace talks were being conducted everywhere. Please tell us how satisfied you are on this.

A. I'm satisfied. However, one round would not be the same as another. In some rounds, some raised interesting questions and some answers

were also very interesting. But some didn't listen to what others were saying. They came to these talks with predetermined set-questions. They didn't listen carefully to what others were asking or answering. And they were raising the same questions.

This shows that they were not listening. Some really wanted to know, so they listened carefully to what others said. They thought about it thoroughly. If this sort of people were participating, the talk becomes more interesting. It is also more satisfactory.

Talks are more open-minded in rural areas. They don't come with prepared ideas. They are natural. I won't say rural areas are better, but people there are more open-minded and natural. ■

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Achieving democracy is best way to honour our martyrs

GENERAL Aung San and his colleagues were assassinated exactly 71 years ago while holding a cabinet meeting at the Secretariat Building in Yangon, casting a pall over our country as gloomy as the rainy season sky.

The tragedy occurred at a time when Myanmar was assured of independence through the relentless efforts of General Aung San and other national leaders. The assassination of General Aung San and other leaders was one of the ugliest incidents in Myanmar's history and an incalculable loss for the country and its people.

In fact, that day taught the country and its people a precious lesson, that a violent approach to political issues never works, and peaceful negotiation is the best way to find solutions to political issues.

a wise hero is born, the entire clan flourishes in happiness," says a verse from the teachings of the Buddha.

The spirit of martyrdom is very simple. A martyr is someone who devoted his or her life for the people and abandons personal interest. From this point of view, we should always remain devoted to the interests of the country and the people.

Who is a martyr? People determine who should be considered a martyr. Martyrs' Day was born of the people. We wish all the people will be aware of this.

Whatever your religion, ethnicity or political persuasion, this is a day for all of us to come together to honour those who laid the groundwork for Myanmar's independence.

On this 19 July, the whole country mourns the country's martyrs. Our martyrs have gone, but their memory, their love for the country and the people and their sacrifices for Myanmar will live forever, along with our gratitude to them.

In fact, that day taught the country and its people a precious lesson, that a violent approach to political issues never works, and peaceful negotiation is the best way to find solutions to political issues.

The day is also a reminder to the people of the democratic goal set by General Aung San, who would want us to keep on marching towards this goal. This is the right way to honour and respect our martyrs.

"The birth of the best of men, the martyr, is very rare; such a person is not born every day. When such



19 JULY 2018

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

The early years of Bogyoke

Dagon Taryar

DURING the colonial period, those who struggled for independence were considered politicians. They were the kind of people who lived in poverty and worked tirelessly to attain independence for their country. They graduated from universities and could have had a professional career or become a salaried employee, but instead chose to fight for freedom, even if it meant sacrificing their lives. In Myanmar, you did not have to go far to find such a person. This person was Aung San. Ko Aung San earned two degrees, in Arts and Law, which qualified him for many well-paying jobs. But he decided to take a different path.

Many remember a story about Ko Aung San when he was General Secretary of the Dobama Asiayone, a Burmese nationalist group formed in the 1930s. The group was short of funds during the pre-in-

dependence period. During this time, Ko Aung San bought Indian pea tempura for two pyas for dinner and drank water. I say "story," because I am not sure that those who are brought up today can conjure up the image of a politician from the old days, one who is unselfish and often does not have enough to eat. In the minds of some, their image of a politician can be different from the ones of the colonial era.

During the period of Japanese rule, during which there were no visible political movements, the image of politicians was very different from today's. In the Fascist period, politicians were not on a stage. They had to work in secret. Their efforts in those days are now called an underground movement, or an underground revolution. Thakhin Aung San became a general during that period. He became the General of the Burma Independence Army, the Burma Defence Army, the

Burma Army and the Burma National Army and War Minister of the cabinet. He also became a politician. After the war, the British government offered him a high military position, but he declined and worked instead as President of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League. When he became a member of the temporary government formed on the verge of independence, he served as Deputy Chairman of the Executive Council, or 5th Premier of the British-Burma Crown Colony by the new British Governor.

As these events occurred, Bogyoke (General) Aung San became widely admired by the people. In fact, the image of politicians from that time are closely related with the people.

(From Thammarziwa and youthful literature and arts)
Translated by Aye Min Soe

To Aung San and Other Patriotic Idols

If he were still living today—
That's what all our people strongly believe—
He would unfailingly make every effort
to take the lead in building
the destiny of his country.

If he were still living today—
That's what all our people strongly believe—
He would actively undertake as his responsibilities
the affairs for the essentials of life and health
of his poverty-stricken people,
as well as the education and culture of his nation.

If he were still living today—
That's what all our people strongly believe—
He would not exhaust his intellectual brains,
and the contributions of the people,
for the sake of his beloved family egocentrically,
but make endeavours to grow
the Tree of Love for his country, his world.

If he were still living today—
That's what all our people strongly believe—
He would sacrifice his flesh and blood
to safeguard his country
in times of foreign invasions.

If he were still living today—
That's what all our people strongly believe—
He would put an end to the ongoing civil wars
among our ethnic races of the same blood,
stirring up the brotherhood spirit,
going hand in hand.

The whole country bled to witness
his untimely fall at the daybreak of a new era;
His Soul, however, on his behalf,
the flaming Torch shining through the dark way,
will be guiding, leading his people as before.
That's what all our people strongly believe.

Tin Moe
From A Collection of Poems:
Pan Zay Khin (1967)
Translated by Zaw Tun

19th JULY
71st Martyrs' Day



Martyrs' Mausoleum

Before the pinnacle was raised on the palace of Independence, a gap was formed in the annals of victory. The flower withered. Perhaps Aung San and the martyrs died because of a previous act's unexpended effect. At the state funeral I should wish to drape them with the Peacock Flag. I can find no restraint. They were my pupils. My attention lapses and I grieve and weep. Hatred and violence existed in Bagan. Alaungsithu was killed by his grandson; robbers ransacked his palace.

There was much suffering and flowing of blood. Among many Burmese kings, Thälun of Inwa was killed by his son aided by retainers on the king's list. Many people died then.

Another illustration, Minre Rantameit was assassinated by his brother Pyi Min. In Ramanya, druing Dhammaceti's reign, his general Thameinbran was reportedly bitten by a ghost and killed. So they died in diverse unsatisfactory ways.

In that upcountry town of many palaces, Mandalay, which I often long for, Myingun resorted to violence and the Crown Prince was killed. The occasion is similar, the act dastardly. So think I. Hmaing, with my disciples in Sagaing.

They were true leaders in thought and in deed. They repulsed the twin English and Japanese dangers. They endeavoured to win back our peacock land's sovereignty and, thus, to extend the annals of Tagaung.

A bunch of bulldogs, disrespectful of the leaders, gradually became more insane and intoxicated. Fools, they decided to take an open bite. This was at the assembly gathered to establish the royal city of Independence.

At a time low in fortune, unable to stay, the leaders departed for the angelic land. It is an event to sadden our evenings. The drum of the Dhamma beats over Burma. Now, more than ever, the people must unite.

The pennant inclined towards the cemetery. I should like, with new resolution, to pay my respects at the eternal mausoleum of the dead seven. Let the Burmese grieve. When victory was at hand the dark twilight of evil men fell. Our leaders were set adrift down river from Dagon.

Oh, before the pinnacle could be raised on the Palace of Independence, the flower of victory withered. I suffer loss for the death of Aung San and the martyrs.

Thakhin Kodaw Hmaing
Translated by Mya Zin

Gandhi's prayer for General Aung San

Mahatma Gandhi, the man who is considered to be the leader of India's independence movement against British rule, had this to say the day after the assassination of General Aung San.

"Like India, Myanmar is going to gain independence. Myanmar's leader General Aung San is the architect of a new Myanmar, and he left Myanmar at the door of independence for the country. General Aung San is a young hero of Myanmar. Due to his efforts, Myanmar is going to gain independence. A group of armed men assassinated him and his colleagues. This is not a small event. How far Myanmar is from India does not matter, but this tragedy makes us pain and grieve.

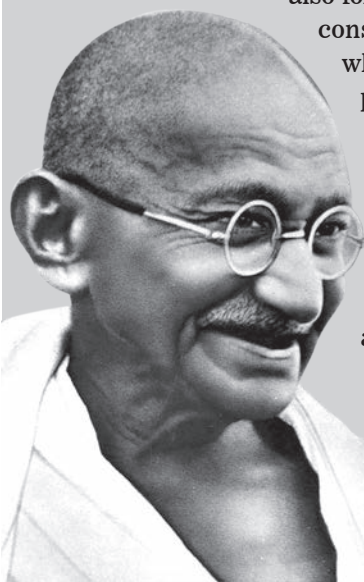
In case of such kinds of tragedy, what would the world become? I used to stay in Myanmar for a long time. I've been to Yangon and Mandalay. Buddhism is flourishing in Myanmar. The majority of the people are devoted to Buddhism. Why did this bloody tragedy happen in a country where Buddhism is flourishing? It is very regrettable to see this, while the country is stepping into the door of independence.

I hope that India will take a lesson from what happened in Myanmar. Because what happened in Myanmar is a sorrowful tragedy, not just for Myanmar but also for the Asia region. My Lord, console the Myanmar people who are struggling for independence like India, and give strength to the bereaved families of those leaders who were assassinated, I pray."

Gandhi's prayer at the prayer session for Myanmar Martyrs on 20 July, 1947.

(Excerpted from the My Contemporaries by Paragu)

Translated by
Aye Min Soe



Bogyoke Aung San (past and present)

Some say out of ignorance,
some out of jealousy;
But so cultured his mind was,
so clean was his mentality.
And so distinguished was he.

Some imagine,
and some think out of ignorance;
But still with us his spirit is,
clear like a rain drop,
always fresh like a morning sun,
radiating his warmth.

Min Thu Wun
Trans.



100 years since his birth, S Africa pays tribute to Mandela

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa on Wednesday marked 100 years since Nelson Mandela's birth with a "town hall" forum hosted by Barack Obama and a walk led by the anti-apartheid leader's widow among a series of tributes.

His birthday on 18 July is marked annually around the world as "Mandela Day", and the Nelson Mandela Foundation called for people to "take action and inspire change" in his name on the centenary year.

Obama, speaking to 15,000 people at a stadium in Johannesburg on Tuesday, gave an emotional address recalling the "wave of hope that washed through hearts all around the world" when Mandela was released from jail in 1990.

"Through his sacrifice and unwavering leadership and, perhaps most of all, through his moral example, Mandela... came to embody the universal aspirations of dispossessed people," Obama said. "(He) shows those of us who believe in freedom and democracy we are going to have to fight harder."

Mandela, who died in 2013, remains a global icon for his long fight against white-minority rule and for his message of peace and reconciliation when he was released after 27 years in prison.

The former US president met Mandela only briefly in 2005 but gave a eulogy at his funeral, hailing him as "the last great liberator of the 20th century".

'He led us from oppression'

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, a protégé of



Former US President Barack Obama speaks during the 2018 Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture at the Wanderers cricket stadium in Johannesburg on 17 July, 2018. Obama has made relatively few public appearances since leaving the White House in 2017, but he has often credited Mandela for being one of the great inspirations in his life. **PHOTO: AFP**

Mandela who came to power this year, said he would mark "Mandela 100" by donating half his salary to charity and called for others to do the same. "He led us from the wilderness of conflict and oppression into the land of promise, of freedom, democracy and equality," Ramaphosa said.

Ramaphosa will spend Mandela Day in Mvezo in Eastern Cape province, Mandela's birthplace, at celebrations including the opening of a clinic, a tree

planting ceremony and distributions of blankets to elderly citizens. Machel Graca, Mandela's widow, will lead a short walk to promote Mandela's legacy, while the centenary has also been marked with the release of a new book of his prison letters and a commemorative bank note.

Obama will speak to 200 young people selected from across Africa to attend a five-day leadership course in Johannesburg. Delivering the Nelson Man-

dela Annual Lecture on Tuesday, Obama warned that the world had plunged into "strange and uncertain times", in a speech containing a series of apparent veiled attacks on US President Donald Trump.

Obama made no direct reference to his successor but warned that "politics of fear and resentment" were spreading, driven by leaders who scorned facts and told lies with an "utter loss of shame". He also blasted cli-

mate-change denial, race-based migration policies, unbridled capitalism and "strongman politics" — stances often cited as hallmarks of Trump's presidency.

Mandela was imprisoned under apartheid rule in 1962 and only freed in 1990, when he went on to lead the African National Congress party to victory in the first multi-race elections in 1994.

He served one term as president before stepping down in 1999.—AFP ■

Zimbabwean gov't hikes salaries ahead of crucial vote

HARARE — The Zimbabwe government has offered the rest of its workers a salary raise, a week after it hiked salaries of members of the defense forces and police by 22.5 per cent and 20 per cent respectively with effect from 1 July.

The minister of state for presidential affairs Simbarashe Mumbengegwi confirmed the 17.5-per cent salary hike in a

statement issued on Tuesday.

The government also pledged to meet other demands by the workers, including cash-in-lieu of leave for teachers.

Mumbengegwi said the salary raise was in fulfillment of an agreement it reached with the workers early this year.

Other benefits for the workers include alignment of rentals at institutional accommodation

to housing allowances.

The Zimbabwean government also promised to provide additional non-monetary benefits to further improve the conditions of service of the workers. The salary hikes come amid limited fiscal space that has seen government spending more than 90 per cent of its revenue on wages. —Xinhua ■

Civilians killed, wounded in shelling on Yemen market: MSF

ADEN — Three civilians were killed and nine wounded when a mortar shell hit a crowded market in southwestern Yemen, Doctors Without Borders (MSF) said on Wednesday. The shell struck a market in Taiz, a city just inland from the Red Sea port of Mokha and under siege by Yemen's Huthi rebels, the non-profit said on Twitter. MSF did not say when the raid took place or give details on who was responsible. Allied with Iran, the northern Huthis are locked in a war against the government of

President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi, who is backed by a powerful military alliance led by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Nearly 10,000 people have been killed in the Yemen conflict since 2015, when Saudi Arabia and its allies joined the government's fight against the Huthis. More than 2,200 of them were children. The conflict has pushed the impoverished country to the brink of famine, triggering what the United Nations says is the world's worst single humanitarian crisis.—AFP

Trump now says no 'time limit' to denuclearize North Korea

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said on Tuesday there is no hurry to denuclearize North Korea under his accord with Kim Jong Un — a shift in tone from when the US leader said the process would start very soon.

"Discussions are ongoing and they're going very, very well," Trump told reporters.

"We have no time limit. We have no speed limit."

Trump said he discussed North Korea with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday at their summit in Helsinki.

"President Putin is going to be involved in the sense that he is with us," Trump said.

The Republican president



President Donald Trump. PHOTO: AFP

met with Kim on 12 June for an unprecedented summit in Singapore during which the North Korean leader pledged to work

toward denuclearization of the peninsula.

But the accord did not spell out a timetable for the process or

say how it would be carried out. Diplomats are now expected to hammer out the details.

More than a month later, no concrete progress has been reported and North Korea has complained the Americans are making unilateral demands.

Before the Singapore summit, the Trump administration said denuclearization should start "without delay," and after the meeting, it spoke of the process beginning "very quickly."

A day after the meeting, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the bulk of North Korea's denuclearization should be completed by the end of Trump's term in 2020.

The White House has hailed

the summit between Kim and Trump in Singapore as a major breakthrough toward disarming the isolated, nuclear-armed North in exchange for easing of sanctions and other help with economic development.

Pompeo met with Kim's key aide this month during his latest trip to Pyongyang but as soon as he left, the North's foreign ministry berated him over his "unilateral and gangster-like" demands.

Trump last week signaled optimism however, unveiling a letter from Kim in which the young leader hailed the "start of a meaningful journey" and tweeting "Great progress being made!"—AFP ■

Trump plans to repaint Air Force One red, white and blue

WASHINGTON — Air Force One's iconic blue-and-white colour scheme may be on the way out.

US President Donald Trump has announced plans to repaint the next model of the presidential aircraft.

"Red, white and blue," Trump told CBS News of his plan to have the next version emblazoned with the colors of

the American flag. "Air Force One is going to be incredible," Trump said in the interview with CBS, which took place over the weekend and was aired on Tuesday.

"It's going to be the top of the line, the top in the world," he said. "And it's going to be red, white and blue, which I think is appropriate."

US aircraft manufacturer Boeing is to supply the next pres-

idential jetliner, which won't take to the skies for several years.

"Boeing gave us a good deal," Trump told CBS. "And we were able to take that."

"But I said, 'I wonder if we should use the same baby blue colors?' And we're not."

Air Force One has featured the blue-and-white color scheme since the administration of president John F Kennedy.—AFP ■

US police capture suspected serial killer in Texas

CHICAGO — Police in Texas on Tuesday captured a man they described as a serial killer who took the lives of at least three people in seven days.

Jose Gilberto Rodriguez was arrested after a 14-minute car chase with police, and charged with two counts of capital murder.

A third murder charge was expected on Wednesday once additional evidence was processed, police said.

A resident of a Houston suburb alerted authorities to the location of the 46-year-old's vehicle Tuesday morning, just hours after police alerted the public that a serial killer may be on the loose.

Police described Rodriguez

as a parolee who was supposed to be monitored by a tracker attached to his ankle, but who removed it a few days prior to allegedly committing his crimes.

The *Houston Chronicle* reported that Rodriguez was a convicted sex offender, and had an extensive and violent past dating back to at least 1989.

His latest alleged crimes exposed failure by local law enforcement to pursue the parolee for violating the terms of his release from prison.

"There's not enough law enforcement officers that are focusing on parolees," Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo told a news conference.

"We've had several cases where somebody cuts their mon-

itor, and the next thing you know they're murdering somebody."

Law enforcement officials expressed relief that Rodriguez was arrested without incident after a car chase ended with police blocking his path. A pistol was recovered in his car, police said.

Detectives said they did not yet have a motive for Rodriguez's alleged crime spree.

Rodriguez is suspected of a crime spree that began July 9 with a home invasion robbery.

He allegedly went on to kill at least three people and was also tied to the robbery and shooting of a 22-year-old Houston metro service worker, described Tuesday evening as in serious, but stable condition at a hospital.—AFP ■

Colombia president-elect Duque picks peace pact critic as defense chief

BOGOTA — Colombia's right-wing President-elect Ivan Duque announced a controversial appointment as defense minister on Tuesday, choosing a vocal critic of the 2016 peace agreement with FARC rebels.

The 70-year-old entrepreneur Guillermo Botero, a lawyer by profession, has no experience in security matters.

"We're going to have a new defense minister, a defense minister with great management experience," said Duque, who is due to take over on 7 August from Juan Manuel Santos, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating the deal with FARC.

Duque has vowed to be tough on crime but has caused tensions with the former FARC guerrillas, who were transformed into a political party after the December 2016 pact that included the disarmament of 7,000 Marxist fighters.

Upon his election last month, Duque vowed to make "corrections" to the peace deal, criticizing it for being too lenient towards former rebels.

The FARC responded by imploring Duque to show "good sense" but on Monday former rebel leader Ivan Marquez said he wouldn't be taking his seat in



President-elect Ivan Duque has vowed to be tougher on former FARC rebels since his election victory in June. PHOTO: AFP

Colombia's Senate — as agreed in the pact — citing "modifications" to the deal as one of his reasons. Botero, president of the National Traders' Federation, has been especially critical of the pact's provision for sanctions against ex-guerrillas and fighters accused of crimes committed during the half-century conflict. The agreement stipulates that former fighters who confess to their involvement in atrocities can avoid prison.

Botero will be tasked with organizing the fight against the remnants of dissident left-wing rebels still fighting the government, as well as various drug trafficking cartels. He must also tackle the issue of the murder of human rights activists — at the staggering level of one every three days, since the start of the year.—AFP ■

Europe urged to tackle airspace bottlenecks as delays soar

GENEVA (Switzerland) — The world airline body on Wednesday urged European governments to urgently fix the region's airspace bottlenecks, saying that delays had more than doubled during the first half of the year.

The International Air Transport Association called on the European Commission, member states and ANSPs (air navigation service providers) to "take urgent action" to address the problem.

It pointed to recent data from Eurocontrol, the Brussels-based agency in charge of monitoring the continent's skies, showing delays of some 47,000 minutes per day during the first six months of 2018 — 133 per cent more than during the same period last year.

"We are in the summer season in Europe. Travellers want to



Delays were caused by staffing shortages, bad weather and strikes. **PHOTO: AFP**

get to their holidays on time. And too many will be disappointed because of air traffic delays," IATA chief Alexandre de Juniac said in a statement.

"We should be making progress, but delays are double

those of last year," he said.

He acknowledged that "there is no quick fix for this year," but added that "the needed solutions are well-known. With the correct investment and planning by governments and

ANSPs we can, and must, make next year better."

Staff shortages, strikes

IATA was particularly critical of the so-called ANSP's, which include air traffic management, for not making "needed investments in their businesses, preferring instead to make super-normal profits."

The ANSP's that manage each country's airspace charge overflight fees for the services they provide, and as flight numbers have increased over the continent, so too has their revenue, it said.

At the same time, "the largest service providers have either under-invested in staff or use outdated employment practices which don't deploy staff when and where they're most needed," IATA charged.

It said that most of the delays have been caused by staffing and capacity shortages, along with poor weather and "disruptive events" like strikes.

"The average delay for flights delayed by air traffic control limitations reached 20 minutes in July, with the longest delay reaching 337 minutes," it said.

IATA called for countries and ANSPs to urgently invest in modernising their infrastructure and to reform "outdated work practices".

"The impact of (air traffic control) delays ripple throughout the economy," Juniac said.

"At a time when Europe's competitiveness urgently needs to be improved, increasing (such) delays is totally unacceptable," he said, insisting that "change must start now."—AFP ■

German bill to cut asylum seekers from North Africa, Georgia

BERLIN (Germany) — Germany's government launched a renewed attempt on Wednesday to declare three North African states and Georgia "safe countries of origin", which would raise the hurdles for asylum requests by its citizens.

Legislation, which aims to reduce the migrant influx to Germany, would add Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia as well as Georgia to the "safe" country list that so far includes all EU members, six Balkans countries, Ghana and Senegal.

However, passage of the bill into law was far from certain after a first attempt was rejected last year in the upper house by states ruled by the Greens party, which advocates a humanitarian approach toward people seeking safe haven.

Greens party co-leader Robert Habeck said his left-leaning ecologist party had not changed its position on the three Maghreb states, arguing that journalists, homosexuals and other groups were not safe from persecution there.

"Therefore I don't see

how these countries can be called safe," Habeck told the media group Redaktionsnetzwerk Deutschland.

Interior Minister Horst Seehofer, presenting the initiative at a Berlin press conference, argued that the bill still allows authorities to evaluate individual cases on their merits.

He said the aim was to deter asylum requests, or to speed up their processing and likely deportations, from countries whose citizens have almost no chance of being granted residency rights in Germany.

Immigration and refugee flows have become a flashpoint issue in Germany since Chancellor Angela Merkel decided in 2015 to keep borders open to a mass influx of people fleeing war and misery in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan and other countries.

The move earned her praise from liberal commentators but also sparked a xenophobic backlash that last year saw the far-right and anti-Islam protest party Alternative for Germany (AfD) enter parliament for the first time.—AFP ■

British PM wins key Brexit vote despite ongoing rebellion

LONDRES (United Kingdom)—British Prime Minister Theresa May narrowly survived another crunch Brexit vote in parliament on Tuesday, as she struggles to unify her divided party around her strategy for leaving the European Union.

The Conservative government defeated an amendment introduced by its own backbench MPs to a future trade policy bill which would have kept Britain in a customs union with the EU if it fails to agree a free trade deal.

If the amendment had passed it would have thrown May's Brexit strategy into disarray and increased pressure on the already beleaguered leader.

Government whips overcame the rebellion by a dozen Tory lawmakers — reportedly issuing last-ditch threats it would prompt a no-confidence vote in the prime minister — and scraped through by six votes, winning by 307 to 301. It was bolstered by the support of four pro-Brexit opposition Labour Party MPs.

Ministers argued the amendment would put "massive restrictions" on its ability to forge "an independent trade policy" after Britain leaves the European Union next March. International Trade Secretary Liam Fox told parliament the government's future trade bill was "an important bill providing continuity and stability."

"It will be the confident first step that the UK takes in establishing itself as an independent trading nation," he added.

The government lost another, less crucial vote on another backbench amendment calling for future participation in the European medicines regulatory network.

The entire trade bill passed by 31 votes and now moves to the House of Lords for further scrutiny before returning to the Commons for a final vote.

'A total, complete mess'

May is battling to unite her Conservative Party around her Brexit blueprint formally unveiled last week following months of cabinet infighting.

It would see Britain ask the European Union for a free trade area for goods through a "facilitated customs arrangement" alongside a "common rulebook".

Brexiters believe that keeps Britain too close to the EU, while pro-Europeans think it fails to protect the country's dominant services sector, among other gripes. The backlash has seen the prime minister face persistent rumours Tory MPs are planning to topple her.

Two top pro-Brexit ministers, Boris Johnson and David Davis, quit in protest last week, while a string of junior walkouts have followed suit, including two more officials on Monday.

Tuesday was also the second day running May faced revolt from backbench Tory lawmakers, after they failed on Monday by three votes to enact changes to a crucial post-Brexit customs bill.

May averted defeat on the proposed legislation — part of a series of bills overseeing Britain's withdrawal from the EU — by bowing to pressure from hardline eurosceptics in her own party.

The move infuriated pro-European Conservatives, sowing the seeds for Tuesday's unsuccessful rebellion.

"I started the week intending to support the prime minister. Yesterday changed that," MP Phillip Lee, who resigned as a junior minister over Brexit earlier this year, told lawmakers.

Despite this week's legislative successes, two former British prime ministers spoke out Tuesday about the divisive impact of Brexit. Describing the government's approach as "a total and complete mess", Tony Blair told AFP the only way out was to hold another referendum on the issue.

"Once this thing has been started by a referendum, it can frankly only be finished by a fresh vote," Blair said.

John Major, who lost power in 1997 after years of Conservative dissent over Europe, also backs a second poll and said positions were more "entrenched" today.—AFP ■

Mercury tops 40 °C as heat wave engulfs Japan, leaves 12 dead

TOKYO — The mercury topped 40 °C in the central Japan prefecture of Gifu on Wednesday to mark this year's highest temperature, as a heat wave continued to scorch wide areas of Japan and prompted the government to warn the public of the risks of heat-related illnesses.

During the week through last Sunday, 12 people died and 9,956 people — 3.7 times higher than that of the previous week — were sent to hospitals, according to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency. For Wednesday, temperatures soared to 40.7 °C in the city of Tajimi in Gifu, while the city of Mino also in Gifu reached 40.6 °C. The last time such temperatures were reached was August 2013 in Kochi Prefecture, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The agency urged the public to drink suffi-

cient amounts of water as precautionary measures against dehydration and heat-related health problems as high temperatures are expected to continue on Thursday.

A Kyodo News tally had said more than 5,000 people were taken to hospitals during the three-day weekend. By prefecture, Osaka saw the largest number of people sent to hospitals at 752 people, followed by 704 in Tokyo and 687 in Aichi.

Of the 9,956 people, nearly 190 needed to be hospitalized for more than three weeks. People aged 65 or older accounted for 46.1 per cent of the total.

Among the fatalities last week was a 6-year-old boy. The elementary school first-grader in Aichi Prefecture was attending an outdoor class for about two hours with his teacher and classmates around noon



A volunteer washes his face during clean-up work on 18 July, 2018, in Kure, a Hiroshima Prefecture city heavily damaged by floods following torrential rains that hit western Japan. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Tuesday. The temperature was about 33 °C at that time. The heat has also continued to make it difficult for relief operations in the regions ravaged by the recent flooding and landslides. Although more than a week has passed from the downpour, more than 10 people remain missing in the prefectures of Hiro-

shima, Okayama, Ehime, Osaka and Nara, according to a Kyodo News tally.

About 4,800 people in 16 prefectures had evacuated to shelters, according to the National Police Agency.

In the three hardest-hit prefectures of Okayama, Hiroshima and Ehime, a total of 813 people were taken to hospitals last

week, including volunteers for removing and cleaning up debris. In the areas hit by the downpour, Ozu in Ehime Prefecture logged 35.9 °C, while Kurashiki in Okayama Prefecture and Higashihiroshima in Hiroshima Prefecture respectively recorded 33.9 °C and 33.4 °C.

Of 927 monitoring

points nationwide, 185 points logged 35 °C or higher on Wednesday, the weather agency said.

In Osaka Prefecture in western Japan, firefighters took nine female students to the hospital around 1 p.m. after receiving an emergency call from the school. Three of them are apparently in serious condition, they said. It was around 38 °C at just past 2 p.m. in Osaka. The Tokyo Fire Department said it received about 2,900 emergency calls on Tuesday, a record high for a single day since it started emergency services in 1936. The Environment Ministry, which releases on its website a map based on colors to detail the risks of heat exhaustion or heatstroke, has decided to change the colors to make it easier to read for people with color vision deficiency.—Kyodo News ■

S Korea minister warns of fallout of US-China trade war

SEOUL (South Korea) — South Korea's finance minister warned that an all-out trade war between the US and China would have grim implications for the country, as he lowered this year's growth outlook on Wednesday.

The world's 11th largest economy is expected to grow 2.9 per cent this year, lower than an earlier estimate of three percent, Kim Dong-yeon said, citing slowing demand at home and abroad as well as rising unemployment.

The latest estimate is also lower than last year's figures, when the export-reliant economy expanded 3.1 per cent, and comes as the South's top two trading partners China and the US engage in a bitter spat that has seen them impose hefty tariffs on billions of dollars in goods.

"The economic situation down the road does not seem to be bright," Kim told reporters.

"The situation may get worse if anxiety in the international financial

markets spreads due to the US-China trade dispute... and market and corporate sentiment does not improve," he said.

Overseas shipments account for more than half of the South's economy, with more than a quarter of exports shipped to China and about 12 per cent to the US. Kim vowed to "closely monitor international trade situations including the US-China trade row" and announced measures to encourage job creation and spur domestic spending. US President Donald Trump has taken a confrontational "America First" stance on trade policy, imposing steep tariffs on steel and aluminum, which angered allies and prompted swift retaliation, as well as 25 per cent duties on \$34 billion of Chinese goods, with more on the way. China has matched US tariffs dollar-for-dollar and threatened to take further measures, while US exports face retaliatory border taxes from Canada, Mexico and the European Union.—AFP ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (1803N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (1803N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY. NO. (595N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY. NO. (595N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL OO1 VOY. NO. (003 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V IAL OO1 VOY. NO. (003 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19-7-2018 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 INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V EF ELENA VOY. NO. (1835/1836)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V EF ELENA VOY. NO. (1835/1836) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.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 SHIPPING LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

Guyanese-born British actress Letitia Wright.

PHOTO: AFP



Black Panther's sister Shuri gets own spin-off comic

NEW YORK—In Marvel's massively successful "Black Panther" film released this year, one of the major surprises was how the superhero's sister, tech genius Shuri, stole the show. Now, she is getting her own comic book series.

Marvel Comics has announced a spin-off series, to begin in October, in which Black Panther is lost on a mission to space, and Shuri is looked upon to step up to fill the void left by her big brother in their mythical home nation Wakanda.

"The world fell in love with

Shuri in the movie. Now, the Black Panther's techno-genius sister launches her own adventures," the publisher said, confirming news first published by news site Bustle.

British-Guyanese actress Letitia Wright earned praise for her portrayal of Shuri in the smash hit film, which critics agree was a groundbreaking moment for blacks on the silver screen.

While Shuri is not the first black heroine in the Marvel universe — Storm, one of the X-Men, has been around for decades —

entire books dedicated to black female characters are rare.

Female Nigerian-American sci-fi author Nnedi Okorafor will write "Shuri." She is already working for Marvel on its "Wakanda Forever" series, which focuses on the Dora Milaje, the all-female special forces unit in the fictional nation.

According to Box Office Mojo, "Black Panther" has taken in more than \$1.34 billion, making it number nine on the all-time box office list. "Avatar" is the all-time champion at nearly \$2.8 billion.—AFP ■

Mongolian baritone wins Chigiana Prize

ULAN BATOR — A Mongolian baritone won first prize at the Chigiana International Competition 2018 for opera singers, local media reported on Monday.

The competition, hosted by the Chigiana Academy of Italy, was held simultaneously in several countries for six months, with the attendance of 1,870 singers worldwide.

Winner Chuluunbaatar Badral is an artist from the Military Song and Dance Academic Ensemble of Mongolia and soloist of the Magnitogorsk Theater of Opera and Ballet of

Russia. He walks away with a 12,000-euro (14,000 US dollars) cash prize.

He has participated in a number of competitions, most recently in September 2017 at the International Virgilijus Noreika Competition for Singers in Lithuania.

Badral was also a semi-finalist at this year's International Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing Competition. In 2016, he won the International Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov Competition. —Xinhua ■

My children don't see me as famous, says Britney Spears

LOS ANGELES — Pop singer Britney Spears says her kids are unaware about her celebrity status.

The 36-year-old musician said her sons, Sean Federline (12) and Jayden Federline (11), who she shares with former husband, DJ Kevin Federline, are busy with skateboarding these days.

"They don't see me as famous. They're really into skateboarding right now. They're not into celebrities — they're into celebrity skateboard people. So mom's show business thing isn't really their interest,"

Spears told *Entertainment Tonight*.

The "Piece of me" hit-maker said her children like her music but they have an acquired taste.

"Yes, but they have their own thing going on, they are very, very meticulous about what they listen to and what they want to hear.

"They've just got new DJ sets in their room so they are constantly... They are really brilliant, really good. They'll give their dad a run for their money!" she said. —PTI ■

Pop star Cliff Richard wins privacy case against BBC

LONDRES, (United Kingdom) — Veteran British pop star Cliff Richard won a long-running case against the BBC on Wednesday after it broadcast live on TV a police raid on his home over allegations that were later dropped.

In the High Court, Judge Anthony Mann said the BBC had infringed Richard's privacy rights in a "serious" and "sensationalist" way and awarded him £210,000 (\$274,000, 236,000 euros) for the "general effect" on his life.

He said Richard was also entitled to further sums for the financial impact of the incident, which will be decided at a later date.

Richard, 77, was Britain's first home-grown pop star and considered the country's answer to Elvis Presley.

His home was raided in 2014 as part of an investigation into historical allegations of sexual assault.

But he was never arrested or criminally charged and was told in 2016 there was insufficient evidence against him.

"My life was effectively turned upside down and my reputation, worldwide, was unnecessarily damaged. I would not want the same to happen to others whether in the public eye or not," Richard said in a statement at the start of his case.

"I firmly believe that privacy



British musician Cliff Richard sits on centre court before watching US player Serena Williams play Germany's Julia Goerges during their women's singles semi-final match on the tenth day of the 2018 Wimbledon Championships at The All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon, southwest London on 12 July, 2018. PHOTO: AFP

should be respected and that police guidelines are there to be followed.

"That means that, save in exceptional circumstances, people should never be named unless and until they are charged. As everybody has accepted, there were no such 'exceptional circumstances' in my case."

After the BBC got wind of the investigation, the police cut a deal with the broadcaster in a bid to delay them breaking the story.

The BBC was tipped off about the raid on Richard's home and was outside in advance to film detectives sweeping in, broadcasting the search live from a helicopter.

The BBC has said it is "very

sorry" for causing the singer distress but stood by its decision to report the investigation.

The police had also apologized to the star.

Richard, who burst onto the pop scene in the late 1950s, is the third biggest-selling artist in British singles chart history, behind The Beatles and Presley.

His hits include "The Young Ones", "Living Doll", "Summer Holiday", "Congratulations", "Mistletoe And Wine" and "The Millennium Prayer".

There has been a wave of accusations of historical sex abuse against prominent figures in Britain since 2012, when the late BBC presenter Jimmy Savile was revealed to be a serial paedophile.—AFP ■

‘Oddball’ among 12 new moons discovered around Jupiter

WASHINGTON — A dozen new moons have been discovered around Jupiter, bringing its total number of known moons to 79, the most of any planet in our solar system, astronomers announced on Tuesday.

One of the new moons was described as a “real oddball” by researcher Scott Sheppard at the Carnegie Institution for Science, because of its tiny size, it measuring just about a half-mile (one kilometre) across.

It also “has an orbit like no other known Jovian moon” and is “likely Jupiter’s smallest known moon,” he added.

This oddball takes about a year and a half to circle Jupiter, and orbits at an inclined angle that crosses paths with a swarm of moons traveling in a retrograde, or in the opposite direction of Jupiter’s spin rotation.

“This is an unstable situation,” said Sheppard.

“Head-on collisions would quickly break apart and grind the objects down to dust.”

The oddball moon, along with two other new moon discoveries, orbit in the prograde, or same direction as the planet’s rotation.

The inner moons take about a year to circle Jupiter, while the

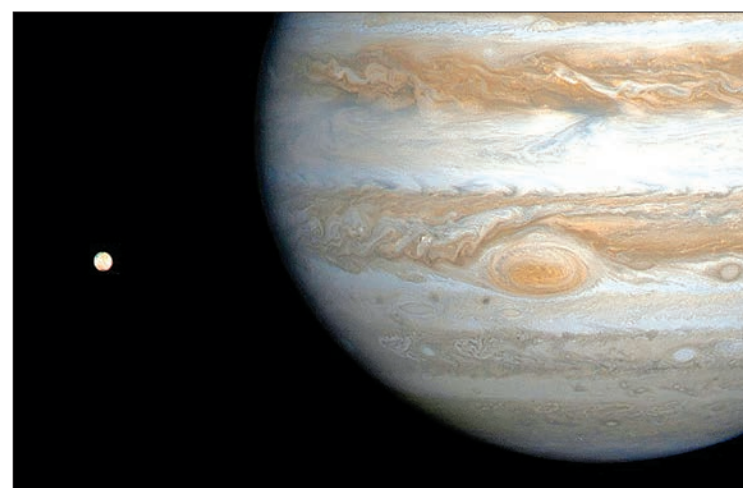
outer moons take twice as long.

All the moons may be fragments that broke apart when their larger, parent cosmic bodies collided.

Astronomers have proposed the name “Valetudo” for the oddball moon, after the Roman god Jupiter’s great-granddaughter, the goddess of health and hygiene.

The Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei discovered the first four of Jupiter’s moons in 1610.

The current team of astronomers did not set out to find new moons of Jupiter, but was scanning the skies for planets beyond



Jupiter, seen with its moon Io (L) in a 2000 NASA image, has the most known moons of any planet in the solar system after astronomers discovered twelve new moons. **PHOTO: AFP**

Pluto when the moons fell into the path of their telescope.

The new moons were first glimpsed in 2017, using a telescope based in Chile and operated by the National Optical Astronom-

ical Observatory of the United States.

It took a year for their orbits to be confirmed with a series of other telescopes in the United States and Chile.—AFP ■

Android software puts Google at heart of mobile life

SAN FRANCISCO — The Google Android operating system, the target of a long-running EU antitrust investigation, powers the vast majority of the world’s smartphones and firmly rules the mobile world.

Android software acts as the brains for mobile devices, coordinating tasks from phone calls and map directions to games, Twitter posts, or online searches.

Google, the revenue-pumping heart of corporate parent Alphabet, makes Android available free to device makers, earning money from ads, content or subscriptions at online services crafted to work smoothly with the operating system.

According to industry-tracker Gartner, Android dominated the smartphone market with a share of 85.9 per cent last year, to around 14 per



People take pictures of a statue during the launch of a new version of the Android operating system called Android 7.0 or Nougat on 21 September, 2016. **PHOTO: AFP**

cent for Apple’s iOS. Some 1.3 billion Android smartphones were sold last year, compared with approximately 215 million running on iOS and 1.5 million

with other operating systems, according to the research firm.

The first version of Android was released a decade ago.

In a playful way, Google

has named Android iterations after tasty treats including Kit Kat, Marshmallow and Nougat. A fresh version, Android P, is in beta testing mode and is expected to be given a yummier monicker before it is officially released.

Free to tinker

Android is “open source,” meaning that device makers can use it free of charge and customize it as they wish.

This led to complaints that the world of Android was “forked,” with compatibility of applications inconsistent and device makers slow or reluctant to push updated versions or security patches to users.

Apple, in contrast, tightly controls its software and hardware, so an application that works on one device works on all. Apple also prides itself on

pushing the most up-to-date version of iOS out to mobile devices.

While Android operating system software is free, EU authorities claim Google uses its leverage to get mobile device makers to install its other mobile apps like YouTube, Chrome, Gmail, Maps and Translate to cement its dominant position.

Android is used by a host of mobile device makers, including South Korea-based Samsung, which is the world’s top smartphone maker in terms of volume.

Before Google shook up the market with Android, gadget makers paid to license operating systems or relied on their own.

Microsoft took that approach with the operating system for Windows Phone, before surrendering the market in the face of runaway success by Android and Apple.—AFP ■

Airbus unveils pioneering solar-powered drone

FARNBOROUGH, (United Kingdom) — European air giant Airbus on Wednesday unveiled a solar-powered drone called Zephyr that will fly at a high altitude and fulfil the same functions as a satellite.

The project was presented at Britain’s Farnborough airshow, where Airbus revealed that the Zephyr S took off on July 11 for its maiden flight from Arizona in the United States.

“This maiden flight of the Zephyr S aims to prove and demonstrate the aircraft capabilities,” Airbus said in a statement.

The High Altitude Pseudo-Satellite (HAPS) has a wingspan of 25 metres (82 feet) and weighs less than 25 kilograms (55 pounds).

It can fly at an altitude of 21,000 metres above the weather and conventional air traffic.

Another model planned, the Zephyr T, would have a wingspan of 33 metres.

“The only civil aircraft that used to fly at the altitude was Concorde,” as well as the military reconnaissance U2 and SR-71 Blackbird planes, Airbus said.

The plan is for the drones to fly for three months in the stratosphere, with a descent that would last around 30 hours.

Zephyr “is a mix between a

satellite and a UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) with the capabilities of a satellite and the flexibility of a UAV,” Jana Rosenmann, head of the drones division at Airbus, told AFP.

The drone is equipped with battery technology that saves energy during the day, releasing it at night.

Seven models are planned to be produced in 2018 and seven more in 2019, Rosenmann said.

The drones will have both military and civilian applications, including maritime surveillance, border patrol missions and forest fire detection.

Britain’s defence ministry is the first customer.

Airbus said it intended to collaborate closely with regulatory authorities around the world in the absence of international rules on such drone flights.—AFP ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi tours historic frigate UBS Mayu at the Thanlyin Naval Station. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor visits historic frigate UBS Mayu

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi yesterday visited the historic frigate UBS Mayu, preserved as a museum ship at the Thanlyin Naval Station.

The State Counsellor was given a presentation of UBS Mayu's history by Rear-Admiral Htay Naing at Thanlyin Naval Station Guest Hall. The State Counsellor was then shown recorded video footage of Lt. Commander Mitchell, on behalf of the British Government, transferring UBS Mayu to the Burma Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve in a ceremony personally attended by Bogyoke Aung San (then Minister for Defence) in which he inspected the Guard of Honor and accepted the transfer of the ship on behalf of Myanmar.

The State Counsellor, together with the Deputy Minister for the President's Office U Min Thu, Rear-Admiral Htay Naing and other officials, then toured the warship and signed the guest book.

The State Counsellor received a souvenir and a documentary photo of her father Bogyoke Aung San, taken during the acceptance ceremony of UBS Mayu, from Rear-Admiral Htay Naing.

The State Counsellor then took a commemorative photo with the officials in front of the UBS Mayu.

The UBS Mayu is a River Class frigate measuring 300 feet 7.75 inches long and 37 feet 9.25 inches at the beam. It has a draft of 14 feet 4 inches (full load) and a displacement of 1,614.91 tons (full load). It was formerly known as the HMS Fal and was commissioned to the British Royal Navy on 15 July 1943 as part of the 38th Division of scout ships.

The HMS Fal was handed over by the British Royal Navy to the Burma Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve at a ceremony on 25 May 1947. Lt. Commander Khin Maung Bo was the first commanding officer after the transfer.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receives UBS Mayu's documentary photo from Rear-Admiral Htay Naing at Thanlyin Naval Station Guest Hall. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi views a picture of the first commanding officer Lt. Commander Khin Maung Bo displayed inside historic frigate UBS Mayu at the Thanlyin Naval Station. **PHOTO: MNA**