THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Friday 11 April, 1997)

- (1) The Special Refresher Course No 26 for Basic Education Teachers concluded
- (2) Minister for Foreign Affairs arrives back from 12th Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement
- (3) Minister for H & T receives South-East Asia Yacht GM
- (4) Workshop on ASEAN's Structure and Mechanism commences
- (5) Deputy Minister tours Shan State (North)
- (6) USDA CEC meets members of Hlegu Township
- (7) Customs Department holds third four-monthly meeting
- (8) Mitsubishi Corp, YIT sign agreement on stipends
- (9) Over32 Kilos raw opium seized in Mongyawng

(1) The Special Refresher Course No 26 for Basic Education Teachers concluded

YANGON, 10 April - The Special Refresher Course No 26 for Basic Education Teachers concluded at the Central Institute of Civil Service in Hlegu Township this morning with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt.

(2) Minister for Foreign Affairs arrives back from 12th Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement

YANGON, 10 April Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw arrived back here this morning by air after attending the 12th Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement held in New Delhi, India from 7 to 8 April.

The delegation was welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win, Minister for Cooperatives U Than Aung, Deputy Minister for Foreign

Affairs U Nyunt Swe, Ambassador of Thailand Mr Poksak Nilubol, Charge d'Affaires ai of Indian

Embassy Mr A K Bhat-tachariee. heads of Department and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and their families.

Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Phae Thann Oo and Minister's PSO U Zaw Myint Oo also arrived back on the same flight.

While in New Delhi, Minister U Ohn Gyaw paid courtesy call on Indian Minister for External Affairs Mr I K Gujral at the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India.

The Minister also discussed matters on bilateral relations, Non-Aligned Movement and mutual interest with Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Parkistan, South Africa, Thailand and Vietnam.

Minister U Ohn Gyaw also received Ambassador Mr Owada, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations Organization.

(3) Minister for H & T receives South-East Asia Yacht GM

YANGON, 10 April General Manager of SouthEast Asia Yacht Co Lt Mr Graham Frost called on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen Kyaw Ba at his office today.

Mr Frost said Myanmar's tourism industry and regional economy has much prospects for development as- visitors are specially interested in aqua-tourism along Myanmar's coastal areas.

Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Ba said Kawthoung area is developing with tourism.

Managing Director of Restaurant and Beverage Enterprise U Myo Min and Managing Director of Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services U Soe Thein were also present.

(4) Workshop on ASEAN's Structure and Mechanism commences

YANGON, 10 April two-day workshop on ASEAN's Structure and Mechanism: Planning Issues for Myanmar's Membership, jointly sponsored by the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS) and the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), Singapore, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, commenced at Traders Hotel here today.

At the opening ceremony, the Message from Chairman of the MISIS Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw was read by member of the MISIS Director-General U Aye Lwin.

Dr Termsak Chelermpalnupap from the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta and Regional Coordinator of the HSF Mr Thai Quang Trung also spoke.

The workshop has two components. The first consists of briefing sessions by officials from the four bureaus of the ASEAN Secretariat. The second is a panel discussion on the AFTA process and relates to priorities in personnel training for the CLM.

The representatives from the CLM countries-Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar will take part in the panel discussion, outlining their priorities in their personnel training for the AFTA process.

This workshop is the second in a series of work shops that will be organized in cooperation with the HSF in preparation for Myanmar's entry into the ASEAN.

It is being attended by the ambassadors and the charges d' ai of the Seven ASEAN countries, the Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, focal points from various ministries, personnel from the Office of Strategic Studies, the National Defence College, the Research Branch of the Ministry of Defence, academic institutes and the MISIS and the officials responsible for the ASEAN from the Kingdom of Cambodia and the LPDR.

The workshop continues tomorrow.	

(5) Deputy Minister tours Shan State (North)

YANGON, 10 April Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Tin Hlaing toured Shan State (North) from 5 to 9 April.

Commander of NorthEast Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, the deputy minister and party observed 1,000 acres of farm land at Bonmong village in Lashio Township, reclaimed by the command.

In Hseinwi Township, he met farmers who grow summer paddy and urged them to plant soy beans and wheat on land where adequate water is not available. He then inspected construction of a diversion dam.

The deputy minister and party observed ground preparations to plant substitute crops at Tashikanbar village in Laukai, Kokang U Tin Hlaing visited rubber plantations near Chinshwehaw, mulberry plantations, sericulture and rubber plantations at Hopang.

He also met departmental personnel and inspected Humon Reservoir.

(6) USDA CEC meets members of Hlegu Township

YANGON, 10 April Central Executive Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Aung Thaung this morning met executives and organizers of village and ward associations at the Hlegu Township USDA office.

He said the Government is engaged in nation-building endeavours for emergence of a modern, developed nation and the USDA, too, is

carrying out national tasks and seeing to the stability peace and economic development of the nation.

Then, the CEC.member gave advice to them.

(7) Customs Department holds third four-monthly meeting

YANGON, 10 April The Customs Department held third four-monthly meeting for fiscal 1996-97 this morning with an address by Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen Win Tin.

Principles of the department should be amended in accord with the changing conditions of world trade in implementing the market-oriented economic system, he said.

Over K 7.731 billion has been collected as tax revenues during fiscal 1996-97 exceeding the target by 200 per cent, he noted, urging them to stay clear of bribery.

Tax procedures must be changed in accord with agreements for the nation to be able to systematically trade with ASEAN members as it will become a member of the association in the near future, he said.

Customs officials should study the principles which must be adopted at the time Myanmar becomes an ASEAN member and should make these known to local authorities in advance.

Divisional-level officials then took part in the discussions.

The meeting at the department was attended by heads of department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, Director-General of the department U Tun Chun and other officials.

(8) Mitsubishi Corp, YIT sign agreement on stipends

YANGON, 10 April Mitsubishi Corporation and Yangon Institute of Technology today signed an agreement on presenting stipends to outstanding students.

According to the agreement, Mitsubishi Corp will provide \$45,000 to Yangon Institute of Technology and beginning 1997-98 academic year, an award of \$250 or cash equivalent to that value will be presented to each of the students selected for respective academic years-72 in 199798, 54 in 1998-99, 36 in 1999-2000 and 18 in 20002001.

General Manager of Mitsubishi Corp Mr Yamanokuchi and Rector of YIT U Nyi Hla Nge signed the agreement and exchanged gifts. Also present on the occasion were heads of department and officials under the Ministry of Science and Technology and faculty members of YIT.

(9) Over32 Kilos raw opium seized in Mongyawng

YANGON, 10 April -A team comprising Defence Services Intelligence personals and members of Monghpyak District Police Force and Shan State Police Force based in Kengtung seized altogether 32.6 kilogrammes of raw opium in 16 packets in Tawpattu Village, Mongyawng Township, on 18 March.

They found Ma Ei Lar, 21, daughter of U Ar Na, together with 11.8 kilogrammes of raw opium in nine packets and K 104,510 in cash, believed to be proceeds from selling opium, at the house of U Sar Phyo, 47, son of U Byaung Tha, in the village.

They also seized about 16 kilogrammes of ras4 opium in 13 bamboo leave packets at the house of U Li Bye, 40, son of U Reh Ja. They found 4.8 kilogrammes of raw opium in four packets ownerless in a grove, about 100 yards from the village.

Mongphyak Township Police Force is taking action against those involved except U Li Bye who is absconding.