

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Monday 21 April, 1997)

- (1) Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom**
- (2) Senior General Than Shwe inspects restoration of pagodas in Bagan, dam and greening projects in central Myanmar**
- (3) Renovation of Shwedagon Pagoda's southern stairway nearly completed, eastern stairway 85 per cent finished**
- (4) Secretary-1 inspects construction of Yangon International Hotel**
- (5) Secretary-2 calls on youths to build up power of 'loving kindness' to be able to resist outside temptations**
- (6) Secretary-2 attends Myanmar-Vietnam Defence Services goodwill soccer match**
- (7) Mandalay Mayor leaves for Japan**
- (8) Brig-Gen Tin Aye to attend 45th Anniversary Indonesian Army Special Forces Day**
- (9) Economic mission of Brunei calls on Minister for Transport**
- (10) 45 members of armed groups exchange arms for peace**

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- (1) Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom**

YANGON, 21 April-Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the-United Kingdom, on the occasion of Her Majesty's Birthday which falls on 21 April, 1997.

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- (2) Senior General Than Shwe inspects restoration of pagodas in Bagan, dam and greening projects in central Myanmar**

YANGON, 20 April - Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Commander in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and entourage inspected construction of Bagan Railway Station at 10.30 am on 17 April .

Managing Director of Myanmar Railways Thura U Thaung Lwin briefed the Senior General on plying of trains between Bagan and Yangon and Bagan and Mandalay and income and construction of Bagan Railway Station. Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein presented a supplementary report.

After giving counsel, Senior General Than Shwe inspected the station. Senior General Than Shwe and entourage left for Maha Hngetpyittaung where they inspected Shin Araham Okkyaung under restoration, Shin Araham statue and the inscriptions about the sacred monk.

Senior General Than Shwe and entourage proceeded to Bagan Archaeology Museum. Mandalay Division Superintending Engineer of Public Works U Yan Aung briefed the Senior General on progress of building the museum. Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Minister for Culture U Aung San also briefed him on respective sectors.

After giving counsel, Senior General Than Shwe inspected the museum.

Senior General Than Shwe and entourage also inspected Bagan Hotel and restoration of Shinbin Thettawshay and Thettawya Pagoda near the hotel.

(3) Renovation of Shwedagon Pagoda's southern stairway nearly completed, eastern stairway 85 per cent finished

YANGON, 20 April - A meeting to coordinate tasks for perpetual allround renovation of the Shwedagon Pagoda was held at the Shwedagon Museum Tazaung on the platform of the pagoda this afternoon, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt.

(4) Secretary-1 inspects construction of Yangon International Hotel

YANGON, 20 April - Chairman of Tourism Development Management Committee, Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt this morning inspected construction of Yangon International Hotel on Alon Road.

On arrival at the construction site of Yangon International Hotel at 8 am he was welcomed by Minister at the Office of the Chairman of State Law and Order Restoration Council Brig-Gen Myo Thant, President of Myanmar MCG Corporation Ltd Mr Koki Onodera and officials.

At the Guest Room, Mr Koki OnoNera greeted the Secretary-1, ministers and party and briefed them on the master plan of the Yangon International Hotel, completion of construction works, internal and external decoration, arrangements for soft opening of the hotel and receiving tourists.

The Secretary-1, ministers and party then inspected construction and decoration of the hotel and left there.

(5) Secretary-2 calls on youths to build up power of ‘loving kindness’ to be able to resist outside temptations

YANGON, 20 April - The Archdiocesan Youth Apostolate (Yangon) hosted a dinner to mark the Fifth Archdiocesan Youth Day at Karaweik Hall this evening. Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo attended it:and gave counsel to the youths.

After a chorus singing of youths in honour of the Youth Day, Daw Geraldine Williams explained opening of the Yangon Youth Camp and the Youth Day.

Giving counsel, the Secretary-2 spoke of three points-

1. views one and all should have on religion;
 2. combination of religious concepts with a sense of duty for nation building; and
 3. adherence to Jesus Christ’s teachings.
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(6) Secretary-2 attends Myanmar-Vietnam Defence Services goodwill soccer match

YANGON, 20 April- Chief of Bureau of Special Operations Chief of Staff (Army) and Secretary-2 of the State Law and-Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo attended the first Myanmar-Vietnam Defence Services goodwill soccer match at Aung San Stadium this evening.

Vice-Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Than Tun, Vietnamese Military Attache Senior Col Nguyen Ngoc Lu and leader of the soccer team Senior Col Ngoc Van Dong greeted the players and they posed for souvenir photo. The match drew 2-2.

Defence Services youth soccer team of Defence Services Self-Defence and Sports Institute and Vietnamese Defence Services team will play on 24 April.

(7) Mandalay Mayor leaves for Japan

YANGON, 20 April- Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo this evening saw off Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Col Sein Win Aung who left for Japan at the invitation of Mayor of Sendai for promotion of bilateral goodwill relations and cooperation.

The mayor was seen off at the airport by officials and family members.

He is accompanied by Head of Water and Sanitation Department of MCDC U Tun Kyi. The mayor will study urban construction projects such as Sendai Airport, port, hotel service, market, hospital and rail transport service in Japan.

(8) Brig-Gen Tin Aye to attend 45th Anniversary Indonesian Army Special Forces Day

YANGON, 20 April - Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Chief of Bureau of Special Operations Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen Tin Oo this morning saw off Brig-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence and members who left to attend the 45th Anniversary Indonesian Army Special Forces Day to be held in Indonesia. Brig-Gen Tin Aye is accompanied by Lt-Col Thein Oo and Lt-Col Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence.

(9) Economic mission of Brunei calls on Minister for Transport

YANGON, 20 April - An economic mission led by Mr Michael Chang of HSE Engineering Sdn Bhd of Brunei called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win at his office this evening. They discussed prospects for investment and mutual cooperation. Minister Lt-Gen Thein Win explained functions of the ministry with audio visual aids'.

Present were Managing Director of Myanmar Port Authority U Tin Oo and officials of the ministry.

(10) 45 members of armed groups exchange arms for peace

YANGON, 20 April - The State Law and Order Restoration Council is building national reconsolidation and upholding Our Three Main National Causes, and is striving for emergence of a modern nation after laying down the political, economic and social objectives. The Government is also providing help for the families who, after realizing their wrongs, had exchanged arms for peace, for their security, livelihood, establishment of model villages, reclamation of land for cultivation, domestic production and agriculture services and for assisting them in health, education and social sectors.

After realizing that the subversive-and destructive acts do nothing good to the nation and understanding the genuine goodwill and nation-building tasks of the Government, the armed groups keep on swapping arms for peace individually and in groups.

In the South-East Command region from 1 to 6 March this year, pvts Zaw Htoo, Saw Tatho, Saw Cha Dowah, Saw Pha Bi and Saw Thali of the KNU from Dupalayar District, members of Metharawhta security committee Pha Nyein, Pha Kalok and Pha Kalo, pvt Tet Kalar of Leinkhwe security committee, sgt Saw El Soe and pvts Atit, Awin, Than Oo Soe, Saw La Di, Saw Lu Phaw, Saw Jabin, Saw Gae, Saw Zaw Lay and Naw Hse Layar of the 16th Battalion pvt Pha Ye Pha of Kyar-in forest group, school principal Chet Thalin of the 6th brigade, pvts Naung Soe, Kyaw Bo, El Leiwa, Saw Min Maung, Ei Hnit Wa and Saw Ki, health officer Saw Ngwe La, deputy jail ward^{en} Maung Nyunt (a) Zat Laik, member of regional forest group Saw He Lei Mu, officer-in-charge of Kyar-in executive committee Saw Brandy, chairman U Palar Tu, pvt Saw Pi Paroe Na, pvt Pha Ka Mu of regional security unity and sgt Saw Nay Tun of the 6th battalion exchanged arms for peace bringing in one AR machine gun, one M-22 automatic rifles, six carbines, three AK-47 automatics, eight M-16 automatics, two revolvers, two 62mm launchers, one RPG, six grenades, three US-made grenades, 878 rounds and pvt Nyi Nyi of ABSDF 207th battalion with one grenade.

In Taninthayi Division, sgt Mahn Kyaw Win of KNU brigade 4, wife Khin Win Kyi and son Kyaw Aung officer-in-charge of the region Saw Pa Det, wife Naw Phawt Hla and sons Saw Lwe Mu, Saw Lwe Kanyaw and Po Da Pi and daughter Naw Hse Mular Phaw exchanged arms for peace bringing with them one M-16 automatic, one AK-47 automatic and 62 rounds.

The 45 who swapped arms for peace were accorded warm welcome at respective military camps.
