THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Monday 5 May, 1997)

- (1) NHC Chairman calls for establishment of institute of traditional medicine, herbal plant gardens in Yangon
- (2) Silk factory inspected in Pyin Oo Lwin
- (3) Minister for Livestock Fisheries tours Rakhine State
- (4) Tatmadaw uncovers major refinery in drug bust
- (5) Minister inspects prawn hatchery in Thandwe District

(1) NHC Chairman calls for establishment of institute of traditional medicine, herbal plant gardens in Yangon

YANGON, 4 May - Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt inspected the Traditional Medicine Manufacturing Factory of the Traditional Medicine Department and the Yangon People's Hospital (Traditional Medicine) here today.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt arrived at the Research Division of the Traditional Medicine Department on Ngahtatgyi Pagoda Road in Bahan Township this morning.

He was welcomed there by Minister at the Office of the Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Brig-Gen Myo Thant, Minister for Labour Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Deputy Minister for Health Col Than Zin, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Director-General of the Office of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Col Pe Nyein, departmental heads, Director-General of Traditional Medicine Department Dr Nyunt Lwin, physicians and other officials.

Director U Tin Win of Traditional Medicine Department and Medical Superintendent of Yangon People's Hospital (Traditional Medicine) briefed the Secretary-1 on the conditions of herbal plant gardens of the department, research, programmes for upgrading Yangon People's Hospital (Traditional Medicine), construction of buildings in the compound and treatment.

(2) Silk factory inspected in Pyin Oo Lwin

YANGON, 4 May-Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung inspected silk factory in PyinOoLwin yesterday.

The minister inspected processing of silk at the factory and spoke of export.

The factory produced 3,500 pounds of silk in 1996-97 and targets at 7,500 ponds in 1997-98.

The minister inspected mulberry plantations. He went to Nawnghkio where he met coffee cultivators.

He spoke of agricultural policies and objectives, cultivation of coffee in Kachin, Shan, Kayin and Rakhine States and Mandalay Divisions and provision of technology and other materials.

The minister inspected coffee plantations in Bantbwe farm.

(3) Minister for Livestock Fisheries tours Rakhine State

YANGON, 3 May-Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Aung Thaung, accompanied by Director General of Fisheries Department U Soe Win, Chairman of 0 Myanmar P L Company U Tin Maung Sein and officials, inspected cold storage and ice factories, fish and prawn dressing plant, digging of prawn pond and prawn hatchery and gave necessary suggestions to responsible personal in Kyaukphyu and Thandwe Townships from 29 April to today.

The minister and party inspected prawn hatchery of Myanmar P L International Ltd at Chi Island, cold storage and ice factory of Myanmar PL Company Kyaukphyu Township on 29 April.

They proceeded to Khaytiya Village and inspected prawn hatchery, 100 ton cold factory and 10-ton ice factory.

Minister U Aung Thaung met services personnel- of district and Township, teachers and members of Union Solidarity and Development Association at Maha Pyinnyakyaw Hall of Institute of Teacher Training in Kyaukphyu Township.

The minister gave necessary instructions to responsible officials.

(4) Tatmadaw uncovers major refinery in drug bust

YANGON, 4 May - The State Law and Order Restoration Council or the Tatmadaw Government, is unswervingly engaged in eradication of genocidal narcotic drugs as a national duty. Members of the Defence Services Intelligence unit received information that opium was being refined in the environs of Manwein Village (map reference- P153280) and Manwoung Viilage (map reference: P187285) in Hsenwi Township where there are full of vales and dales. So, a combined force made up of Tatmadaw columns, local Intelligence Unit members and Lashio anti-drug police members under the Command of Tactical Operations Commander Col Than Maung under the control of North-East Command left Kunkawk Village in Hsenwi Township at 9 pm on 29 April. On arrival at map reference: P-042055 at 3 am on 30 April, they found a Willy jeep (Khat5622) suspicious. After checking the car, they seized five persons together with 108 packets of raw opium weighing 320 kilo, and a .30 carbine.

After interrogating the five-persons; the combined force marched along Man Peng (map reference: P090128) and Man Ta (map reference: P-079169) at 8.30 am. At 2 pm, a clash broke

out against 30 armed persons at a place (map reference: P-097236) near Namlin Village (map reference: P-095214). In a mopping-up operation, they discovered six big sheds and five small sheds where heroin was refined. They seized from the sheds 21 kilos of heroin, 750 gallons of acetic anhydride, 590 gallons of ether, 283 gallons of Lysol, 775 gallons of spirit, nine bags of ammonium chloride, 138 bags of calcium, 425 gallons of opium base liquid and paraphernalia.

On 1 May, the military column led by Tactical Operations Commander Col Than Maung mopped up the area around the refinery and found 28 packets of heroin, weighing 10.05 kilos, at map reference: P 097244 and one packet of heroin, weighing 3.63 kilos, at map reference: P-104247.

In the above cases, 34.68 kilos of heroin, b 320 kilos of raw opium, of raw , chemicals and paraphernalia were uncovered. Action will be taken against Gam Chaung, son of U Htan Naw, Aik Kyon, son of U Khaung Tu, Lauk Kyan, son of U Tein Kyon, Law Shone, son of U Li Kyauk, and Kyauk Kwe Yu, son of U Kyan Chwin Ywin. Similarly at 4 pm on 9 April 1997, a combined force made-up of a platoon of the military and members of Defence Services intelligence unit stopped a jeep near Shauktai Village in Konkyan Township on its way to Laukkai. They seized 106 packets of heioin, mixed with tea leaves, weighing 33.29 kilos. Action will be taken against the six pel90ns in-the jeep-Li El, son of U Li Se, Yan San, son of U Yan Kwe Yin, Lui El, son of U Li Paung, Li To, son of U Li San, Kyin paung, son of U Kyan El, and Ar Wai, son of U Wai Shin.

(5) Minister inspects prawn hatchery in Thandwe District

YANGON, 4 May-Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Aung Thaung, accompanied by Director-General of Fisheries Department U - Soe Win and officials, inspected prawn hatchery off Fisheries Department at Lonetha Village, Thandwe District on 1 May.

The minister and party also inspected demonstration of prawn hatchery

which was co-sponsored by Fisheries Department and FAOand met services personnel.

They proceeded to Thabyuchaing and inspected trawlers, chosen land for constriction of cold storage and ice factory and Tatmadaw canning factory.

The minister and party also inspected 200ton cold storage and 70-ton ice factory and gave instructions.

He met district and township level departmental officials, marine entrepreneurs and company staffs.

In the afternoon, the minister met services pelsonnel, local marine entrepreneurs, executives, organizers and members of Union Solidarity and Development Association at Thandwe District Law and Order Restoration Council Office.