

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Saturday, 6 Sept, 1997)

- (1) Fossils, antiques donated to National Museum**
 - (2) Secretary-2 receives national leaders of Special-Regions of northern Shan State**
 - (3) Thriving plantations of corn, rubber in northern Shan State prove fruits of labour**
 - (4) Mahathir will boycott London meeting if ASEAN member Myanmar is barred**
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(1) Fossils, antiques donated to National Museum

YANGON, 5 Sept Chairman of the Central Committee for Revitalization and Preservation-of Cultural Heritage Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt this morning accepted fossils and antiques donated to the State and cash donations for allround renovation of Seinthahlyaung Buddha Image in Bago.

The ceremony at the National Museum on Pyay Road was attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Col Pe Thein, Minister at the Office of the Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Brig-Gen Myo Thant, Minister for Cooperatives U Than Aung, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaug, Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Education Dr Than Nyunt, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, officials of the Office of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, departmental heads, Myanmar historians, directors-general and officials of the departments under the Ministry of Culture, donors and guests.

Assistant Curator (Grade II) Daw Cho Pyone Zaw emceed the occasion.

She read the lists of fossils and antiques donated by U Tint Hsan (Htetyilin Gems Ltd) and antiques by Dr and Mrs Miriam Marshall Segal of New York.

Next, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt accepted the fossils and antiques handed by the donors, and presented certificates of honour to them.

The Secretary-1 also accepted the cash donations for allround renovation of Seinthahlyaung Buddha Image in Bago including US \$ 10,000 donated by son U Sein Than and family on behalf of mother Daw Ahaw of Los Angeles in memory of late father U Awong, K 500,000 by U Khwe and Daw Yein family of Yangon, K 300,000 by U Kyaw Myint and brothers (construction materials

trading) of Yangon, K 200,000 by U Maung Maung Lwin (proprietor of Alpha Hotel) and Daw Sein Sein family, K 200,000 by Daw Kyi family of Bago, K 100,000 by U Shwe Tin and Daw Tin of Bago, K 200,000 by U Kyaw Khine and Daw Tin Htwe of Hong Kong and K 30,000 by U Ohn Myint and Daw San San Myint.

The Secretary-1 presented certificates of honour to the donors.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt said today's ceremony, held under three programmes, was very auspicious, and added the first programme was to donate fossils to the State by those who had collected and kept them for many years to be displayed in the National Museum to enable scholars and interested persons to study, the second was to donate Myanmar antiques to the National Museum by Dr and Mrs Miriam Marshall of New York who had collected them, and the third was to donate cash for allround renovation of Seinthahlyaug Pagoda in Bago.

He said Hanthawady (a) Bago was a city where King Bayintnaung, founder of the Second Myanmar Empire, built his palace and moreover it was known as Oktha Bago, a flourishing and prosperous city in the reign of Mon King Rajadharit. Therefore, there are numerous ancient pagodas and religious edifices in the city.

The Government has been rebuilding Kanbawzathadi Palace restoring its original appearance and style to revitalize Myanmar cultural heritage in Bago, he said and added famous pagodas including Shwehmawdaw Pagoda, Kalyani Ordination Hall, Narani Ordination Hall and many religious edifices are being renovated and preserved.

As Seinthahlyaug Sacred Image, one of the ancient edifices in Bago, has been exposed to the elements, wellwisher mother Daw Ahaw and family of Los Angeles requested the Government to sponsor in building Gandakutitaik Tazaung as a shelter to the image, he stated.

The Secretary-1 said that as renovation and preservation of pagodas is a noble and meritorious deed, decision has been made after seeking the counsel from the Sayadaws to construct Gandakutitaik Tazaung for Seinthahlyaug Buddha Image.

While the Government is making arrangements for construction of Gandakutitaik Tazaung, other wellwishers also came out in addition to the original donors, he said and expressed his belief that there will emerge another wellwishers.

Under the guidance of the Government, efforts have been made to keep Seinthahlyaug Buddha Image in Gandakutitaik Tahaung in grandeur with the donations of the wellwishers for public obeisance, he noted.

He thanked those who donated fossils and antiques which reflect history of Myanmar people.

Then, the Secretary-1, the ministers and guests inspected fossils and antiques.

U Tint Hsan and Daw Khin Win donated 210 fossils including elephant molar and tusk, rhinoceros molars, wild bull skull and tooth, swine molar and teeth, gastropod fossil, bond plates of turtles and horns and bones of other animals, 35 coins of Pyu and Yadanabon Periods, 21 pots including a glazed pot of Bagan Period, eight earthen pipes of Konbaung Period, 10 Hintha weights and two jingle bells.

Dr and Mrs Miriam Marshall Segal donated a couch of 19th century AD, a painting of a monk a red bamboo basket, a food container with four legs, each in a figure of mythical Hintha bird, a black Shan food container, a green Shan food container, a small black lacquer food container and a big brown lacquer food container.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party inspected the National Museum.

(2) Secretary-2 receives national leaders of Special-Regions of northern Shan State

YANGON, 5 Sep - Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo received national leaders of Special Regions in Shan State (North) at Shweli Yeiktha of North-East Command this morning.

Present were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Soe Tha, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Kyaw Than, Chairman of Shan State (North) Law and Order Restoration Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Thein and officials, national leaders of Kokang Special Region 1, Mongko Special Region 1, Wa Special Region 2, Shan Special Region 3, Kachin Special Region 5, Palaung Special Region 7 and Shan State National Army (SSNA) and officials.

First, the Secretary-2 and ministers cordially conversed with the national leaders.

Then, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo presented gifts to national leaders and members and counselled them on progress and development of the regions.

(3) Thriving plantations of corn, rubber in northern Shan State prove fruits of labour

YANGON, 5 Sept - Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo inspected agriculture and construction in Lashio in northern Shan State yesterday evening.

He was accompanied by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Soe Tha, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Kyaw Than, Chairman of Shan State (North) Law and Order Restoration Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and departmental officials.

(4) Mahathir will boycott London meeting if ASEAN member Myanmar is barred

The following is a transcript of CNN Q&A coverage on 3-9-97 of Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohammed 's remarks in which he said he would opt out from attending the forthcoming London meeting if Myanmar is barred.4d

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammed is blaming currency speculators for undermining investors' confidence in the Malaysian economy. Speaking on CNN questionnaire, the Prime Minister defends Malaysian economic fundamentals. He also threatened to boycott the scheduled meeting of Asian and European leaders in London next year if fellow ASEAN member Burma is shunned.

Mahathir- I think that people outside of ASEAN cannot dictate to U8 who should be members of ASEAN. I think you accept ASEAN only as it is or you don't. I am not speaking for ASEAN. By the way, I am speaking for myself. But if I find that the other countries are going to dictate to us who should and who should not attend from among us, then, I think, I might opt out.

(5) Minister for Sports receives Ambassador of Russian Federation

YANGON, 5 Sept President of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Sein Win received Ambassador of the Russian Federation Mr Gleb A Ivashentsov at his office this morning.

Present also were Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department Col Hla Myint Kyaw, Officer on Special Duty at the Ministry of Sports Col Thuang Htaik, Adviser Col Ngo Ciin Pau, Deputy Director-General of SPED Lt-Col Thein Aung and officials.

(6) Minister for Forestry receives Survey Department D-G of Bangladesh

YANGON, 5 Sept- Director-General Brig Shahedul Islam Mondal of Department of Survey of Bangladesh and party called on Member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen Chit Swe at International Business Centre this afternoon.

The delegation was accompanied by Ambassador of Bangladesh Mr Jahangir Saadat.

Also present were officials of the ministry.

(7) Plans under way to supply Yadana natural gas for domestic use

YANGON, 5 Sept-Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein inspected axis for laying of a gas pipeline of Yadana Gas Pipeline Project near Khayanlay Village, Dedaye Township, and near Kyondoe Village, Pyapon Township, this morning.

The project is to supply natural gas from Yadana Project for domestic use:

The minister was accompanied by officials of Total Oil Company of France, Unocal Oil Company of US and Mitsui Company of Japan, which are implementing the project in cooperation with the Ministry of Energy.

Director-General U Soe Myint of Energy Planning Department and officials of the three companies briefed them on progress of work.

This project will help boost power generation and urea fertilizer production, said the minister.

The project includes laying of a 148 miles of 20-inch gas pipeline from Yadana Offshore Project to Kyaikhtaw region in Twantay Township, building of a fertilizer factory which will produce 570,000 tons of urea annually and building of a 340-megawatt power station with a combined cycle power plant.

They then looked into the requirements for implementing the project.

U Khin Maung Thein attended to the needs for expediting regional development during his tour.
